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K-RIDE invites fresh tenders for civil works

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The Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Ltd. has invited fresh tenders for the balance civil works of Corridor-2, also known as the Mallige Line, between Benniganahalli and Chikkabanavara. » PAGE 4

Eateries: Centre asked to prepare separate norms

BENGALURU
The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Central government to frame separate guidelines for large, medium and small restaurants.

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SIR second phase begins in nine States, three U.T.s

The exercise will cover 51 crore voters; West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee alleges 'silent, invisible rigging', while ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu moves Supreme Court, terming the exercise 'arbitrary'

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
Shiv Sahay Singh
NEW DELHI/KOLKATA

The Election Commission on Tuesday launched the second phase of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in nine States and three Union Territories, covering around 51 crore voters, with booth-level officers distributing enumeration forms to electors.

The exercise, however, drew sharp opposition from several parties. West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress leader Mamata Banerjee led a rally in Kolkata, alleging "silent, invisible rigging", while the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in Tamil Nadu challenged the exercise in the Supreme Court, calling it "arbitrary, unreasonable, and prone to disenfranchising voters".

Screening time: A booth-level officer hands over enumeration forms to voters in Kolkata on Tuesday as part of the Special Intensive Revision that got under way in West Bengal. PTI

A clean-up, says BJP

The BJP has welcomed the clean-up exercise as a step towards ensuring greater transparency on the electoral rolls.

The Election Commission said booth-level officers (BLO) have started going door to door to hand out partially filled enumeration forms. Every elector will receive a unique form, it said. During the enumeration phase, which will continue till December 4, more than 5.3 lakh BLOs will visit houses at least thrice for the distribution and collection of forms.

Apart from the BLOs, 7.64 lakh booth-level agents (BLAs) appointed by political parties, 10,448 electoral registration officers and assistant EROs, and 321 DEOs have been pressed into action to conduct the SIR exercise in a smooth, orderly, and voter-friendly manner, a senior official said.

The 12 States and Union Territories where the SIR is being conducted are the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

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The passenger train and the goods train that collided near the Bilaspur railway station in Chhattisgarh on Tuesday. PTI

Eight killed as trains collide near Bilaspur

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

At least eight persons were killed and around 20 injured after a passenger train rammed a stationary goods train near the Bilaspur railway station in Chhattisgarh on Tuesday, officials said.

The Railway Ministry has ordered an inquiry.

Rescue operations were under way till late evening and train services remained affected on the Mumbai-Howrah route.

The incident occurred around 4 p.m., when the MEMU passenger train was heading to Bilaspur from Gevra in neighbouring Korba district, Railway officials said.

The Railways said a compensation of ₹10 lakh each will be provided to the next of kin of the deceased, ₹5 lakh each to those seriously injured, and ₹1 lakh each to those with minor injuries.

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Campaigning ends for 121 seats in Bihar

Amit Bhelari
GOPALGANJ

As campaigning ended on Tuesday for the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election, leaders of both the ruling NDA and the Opposition INDIA bloc went all out in their final appeal to voters in the 121 constituencies that will go to the polls on November 6.

On a hectic final day, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi conducted three rallies each, while the INDIA bloc's chief ministerial candidate, Tejashwi Yadav, used a chopper to squeeze in visits to 17 constituencies.

While the NDA campaigned on the theme of "corruption and jungle raj" if the Opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal returns to power, Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Yadav focused on Bihar's unemployed youth.

CONTINUED ON
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State releases new Skill Development Policy

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday unveiled Karnataka's new Skill Development Policy 2025-32, here.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the Bengaluru Skill Summit, the Chief Minister said the policy came with a seven-year strategic blueprint, backed by a robust outlay of ₹4,432 crore.

"This aims to position Karnataka as a global hub for a skilled, inclusive, and future-ready workforce," he added.

Mr. Siddaramaiah also said that his government has been, since 2023, redefining its skilling vision to align with the demands of a rapidly changing, post pandemic, global economy.

Chief minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and others releasing the Skill Development Policy 2025–32 in Bengaluru on Tuesday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

According to Sharanaprakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood Ends, the new Karnataka State Skill Development Policy 2025-32 aims to train 3 million youth by 2032.

"This policy document will serve as the backbone for the state's skilling vision, integrating schemes, improving quality and aligning with the $1 trillion economic goal," he added while speaking at the opening session of a two-day Skill Development Summit which began on Wednesday.

The policy also envisages to increase women's ITI enrolment to 33%, to double district-level skilling capacity, and to strengthen global placement linkages through the International Migration Centre-Karnataka (IMC-K).

It focuses on lifelong learning, reskilling, and upskilling, with strong industry collaboration through apprenticeships and partnerships. It also proposes special interventions for women, persons with disabilities, marginalised communities, and the informal workforce.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Chief Minister D.K Shivakumar said Karnataka's commitment to global partnership in knowledge sharing was critical to shape its workforce development. He said the State produced more than 1.6 lakh engineering graduates annually through 270 colleges and operated 1,160 ITIs, contributing to a robust talent pipeline for domestic as well as global enterprises.

The Skill summit is being organised by the Karnataka Skill Development Corporation (KSDC), Karnataka Skill Development Authority (KSDA) and the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM). *The Hindu* is a media partner of the event.

GO on public places: HC reserves orders

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday reserved its verdict on an appeal filed by the State government challenging the October 28 interim order passed by a single judge staying October 28 GO of banning use of public places, like parks, playgrounds, etc., by private groups and individuals for assembly of 10 or more persons without prior permission.

FULL REPORT
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Bengaluru among 3 Indian cities of 33 worldwide to reimagine urban spaces for a hotter future

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As Indian cities experience record-breaking temperatures, three major urban centres i.e. Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, and Mumbai, have joined a global coalition of 33 cities committed to addressing one of the most serious impacts of the climate crisis: extreme heat.

Announced on the first day of the C40 World Mayors Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the Cool Cities Accelerator will help urban leaders protect residents, safeguard economies, and redesign cities for a hotter future. The initiative brings together 33 founding cities representing over 145 million people from every region of the world, including Austin, Boston, Buenos Aires, Freetown, London, Nairobi, Phoenix, Paris, Singapore and others, all committed to protect residents and transform urban spaces for a hotter future by 2030, said a release.

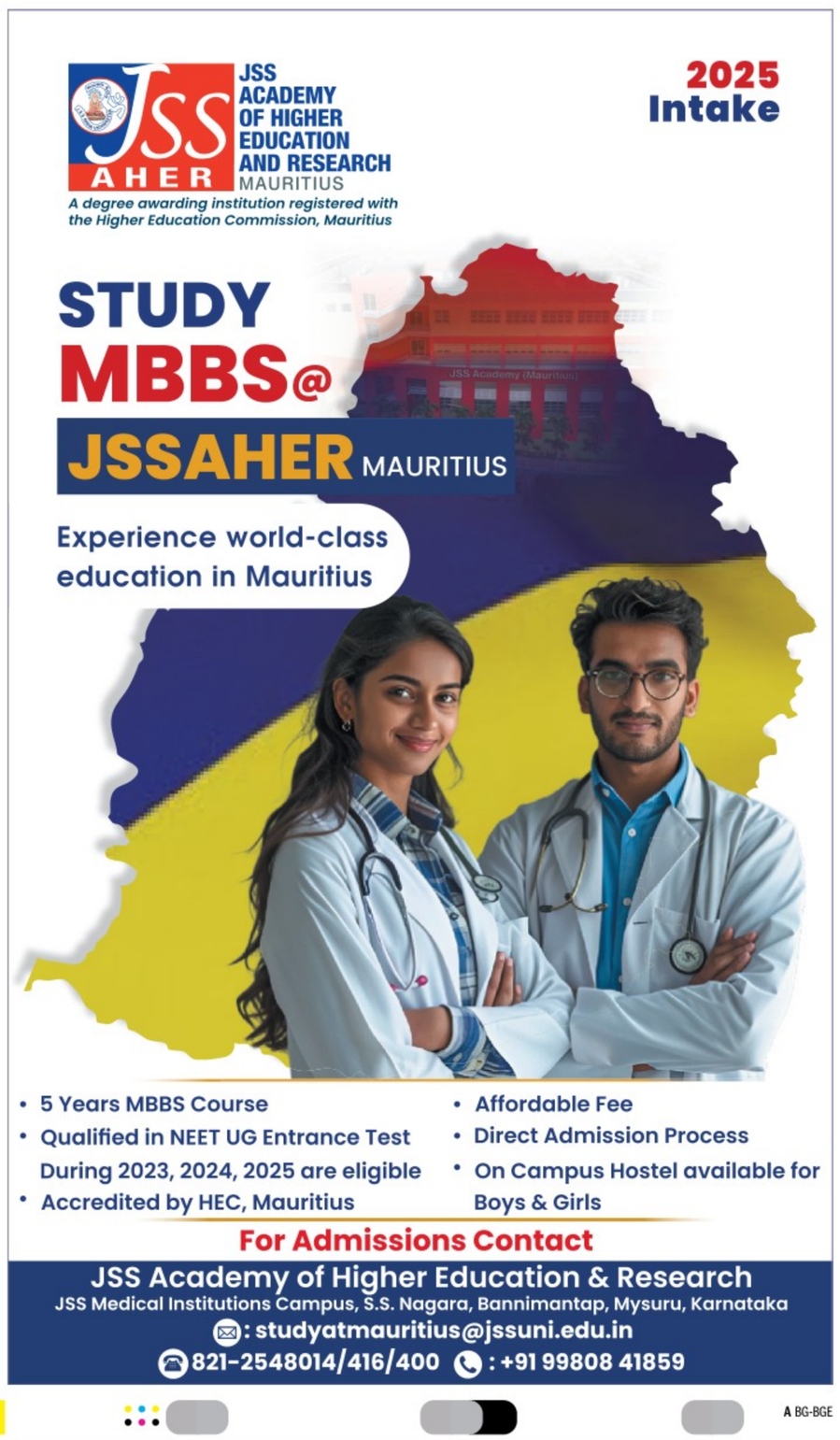
C40 established the Accelerator with support from The Rockefeller Foundation, and with implementation support from ClimateWorks Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Z Zurich Foundation and Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Extreme heat is already the deadliest weather-related hazard worldwide, responsible for nearly half a million deaths each year. Without decisive action, the number of people exposed to life-threatening urban heat is projected to increase five-fold by 2050, said the release, adding, "The vast majority of deaths caused by extreme heat are preventable through timely access to cooling, hydration, medical care, public health interventions, and improved infrastructure. These preventable deaths typically occur when individuals are not adequately protected during periods of dangerously high temperatures."

C40 Cities' Cool Cities Accelerator will help mobilise global action to protect cities such as Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Bengaluru, London against extreme heat. K. MURALI KUMAR

The Cool Cities Accelerator provides a science-based, practical framework for cities to take both immediate and long-term action. Participating cities will collaborate, share best practices, and issue progress reports on protecting residents by establishing clear heat leadership, strengthening early warning systems, and ensuring access to cooling during emergencies within two years, as well as transforming cities for the future by improving building standards, expanding urban tree cover and shade, and future-proofing critical infrastructure within 5 years.

In support of the Cool Cities Accelerator, The Rockefeller Foundation is providing a grant of approximately $1 million to develop the targets for heat adaptation and provide technical assistance for cities to implement solutions that mitigate the dangerous effects of extreme heat, the release added.



A chess powerhouse like India should host at least one major event per year

The FIDE president says the country's emergence is a boost for the sport, and hopes to take the game of 64 squares to schools; feels Gukesh becoming World champion has inspired youngsters to dream big

INTERVIEW

Arkady Dvorkovich

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

India must have become quite familiar to Arkady Dvorkovich by now. Since the country hosts major chess events regularly, the FIDE president often flies to the land where the game originated all those centuries ago.

He made the ceremonial opening move of the World Cup at Resort Rio in North Goa over the weekend. Shortly before that, the head of the world chess governing body spoke at length about several topics, including the unfortunate death of Daniel Naroditsky (following which former World champion Vladimir Kramnik came under fire for his comments on cheating targeted against the American Grandmaster), the newly announced Total World chess championship and India's emergence as a host for major FIDE events.

On the World Cup

This is going to be an exciting tournament. We, at FIDE, are thankful to the Indian and Goan governments as well as the All India Chess Federation (AICF) for creating all required conditions for hosting this event.

After the World Cup was given to India, it was up to the AICF to decide which city will play the host. The conditions for players, logistics, weather, hotel and local support were the deciding factors and the AICF proposed Goa. There are many beautiful places in India, and we have been hosting events all around and it is good to be in a new place. It was a little bit short notice, of course, as hotels are usually booked one year in advance.

On Daniel Naroditsky's death

I personally and we all at FIDE are really sorry about the tragic death of Daniel. He was really a personality that influenced the chess world in a positive manner, by being a player, commentator and educator.

For me it is really personal, but it is also an institutional issue. We all understood that he was affected by the hints, sometimes aggressive hints, related to potential cheating. Even if those were not direct accusations, he felt like those were against him and some other players, like David Navara, for instance.

At the moment it is in the hands of FIDE's Ethics Commission, so I cannot pre-empt the findings. We have passed on the evidence, which was provided to us, to the people who will investigate.

Having said that, I need to mention that I had tried to persuade Kramnik, informally, not to make those aggressive comments. Not after what happened, but a long time before that, as I felt that it was a bit too much. And also, I asked him to provide the full methodology that he was using for his allegations. We haven't received it yet. We hope that at some point we will be provided with the whole methodology.

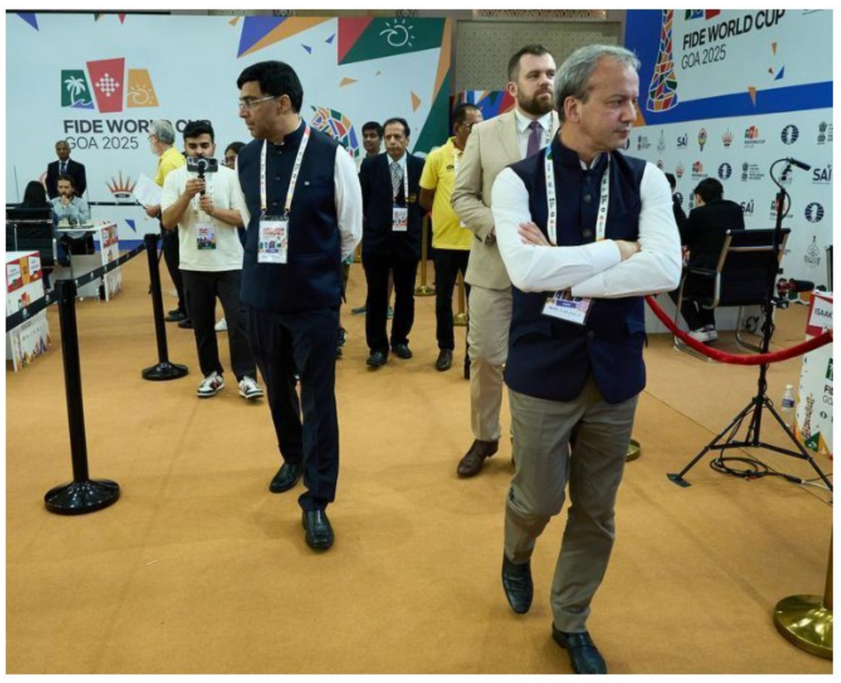
On cheating in chess

We have always taken it very seriously. The question is how the whole community feels about that, since we do need all the support to deal with the issue. Online component is the most difficult one, of course, and here the collaboration with the online platforms is essential.

They do have their own approaches. They share those partially, and not fully, and I understand that. We need to have deeper collaboration. We do not carry forward the sanctions (for online players) to over-the-board events. We don't know for sure if somebody is banned, let us say, on *chess.com* and if there is 100% proof for that, we can ban the same player in over-the-board events, too. And to come to that point, we need full understanding.

We have much better equipment now (to deal with cheating). We can really find signals in the playing halls, if there are any. So, everyone should be aware that if there is a real signal, we will find it. Players, I think, are aware of that.

I am quite confident that here we have a truly fairplay environment and



Dvorkovich believes that the classical World title is the most important one. FIDE

we have the best specialists possible. M.S. Gopakumar, who is one of the best arbiters and fairplay specialists, is responsible for this here in the playing hall of the World Cup.

We cannot now guarantee such a system in all rated tournaments around the world, which run into thousands, but at top-level events, we can really guarantee it.

On the new Total World chess championship

Well, first of all, we do believe that our classical World title is the most important one. And that is a chess tradition and history. And we do know from talking to people, from opinion polls, from viewership data, that still it is the most likeable title; and people believe that the best player in the world is the champion in that format. So, we do hope that it will remain the same.

But the reality is that life is faster, and even classical chess is getting faster. The time control for the World Cup, for instance, is shorter than that for the World championship match. Personally, I believe that this time control is better than the others. Also for spectators, for sponsors, faster controls are more likeable in terms of viewing, looking at chess events.

We believe that we should complement the pure classical time control with other things. We do have rapid and brief championships, of course. It came like a kind of coincidence that we were thinking about something like that (Total World championship) and Norway Chess came to us with this initiative. They said that we want to complement it with something new, not substitute and they are very good partners.

On India being a major host for big FIDE events

I think the real jump was when Chennai wanted to host the Olympics back in 2022. And that was really short notice for such a huge event. That is when we started building our really close ties with the AICF and the federal government and local governments. So, we are thankful to our Indian friends for organising a huge event like the Olympiad for which 180 teams arrived.

And then we started doing events every year. Women's Grand Prix, youth events... we do believe that such a big country and chess powerhouse as India should be able to host at least one major event per year.

On the importance of D. Gukesh winning the World title at 18

Firstly, it was an amazing thing to see such a young player winning the World Championship. And, of course, it is very good for India.

But it is also very good for young players all around the world, since now they know that anything is possible. That they can really challenge top grandmasters and try to win. So, that is important.

But Gukesh should prove now that he is at this level. He is learning. He is trying to play in many events. He is playing the World Cup here. He doesn't need to play or qualify from the Candidates (as he is the defending World champion), but he is coming here to show his strengths as well. I like that he is doing it.

Of course, we were happy to see a new generation of players coming to the stage and competing for the top positions.

Now, the next challenge is to make sure that India shows also an example how to raise the next generation, how to bring chess in schools in particular, to create the foundation for the future development of chess, not just having 20 top players, but also having hundreds of thousands of young players playing and maybe some of them will go to the top level.

So, that is the new stage of our collaboration. We have signed a memorandum with KIIT and the AICF to develop educational chess in the country and globally.

Two IISc contract staff booked

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sadashivanagar Police have registered a case of misappropriation, forgery and criminal breach of trust against two women clerical staff of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for allegedly siphoning off ₹80 lakh worth funds allocated for the students.

Based on the complaint filed by Capt. Sridhar Warrier, Registrar, IISc, on Thursday, the police registered the case against V. Soundharya, 25, and R. Deepika, 25. According to the complaint, the duo, appointed as secretaries through a private firm on contract basis, are accused of diverting government funds to personal accounts by creating fake records.

Further probe revealed that the duo had conspired to divert the funds meant for students' foreign trips. The accused changed the bank accounts of the students, replacing them with their personal accounts and the bank accounts of their family members and relatives to transfer the funds.

An internal audit was conducted which exposed the role of the accused.

Halasuru Gate police bust fake ₹2,000 notes racket, 10 held

The notes that were withdrawn from circulation have been tampered with by changing their serial numbers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following a complaint from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) about fake currency notes, the Halasuru Gate Police busted a racket and arrested 10 persons for their alleged involvement in tampering with and selling ₹2,000 denomination notes withdrawn from circulation.

According to the police, the RBI's manager filed a complaint on October 17, stating that ₹2,000 notes – already withdrawn from circulation – had been tampered with by changing their serial numbers before being deposited in the bank.

Following the complaint, the police identified the depositor and arrested him from his residence in Cubbonpet on October 24.

During interrogation, the accused allegedly revealed that he had deposited ₹40,000 worth of altered currency on behalf of two acquaintances, who promised him a commission. Based on his information, the police arrested both associates later near Mysore Bank Circle the same day.

All the 10 accused were produced before the court on November 3 and remanded in judicial custody. FILE PHOTO

Further investigation revealed that the trio had received ₹8 lakh in ₹2,000 notes from three other individuals, who had convinced people to hand over such withdrawn notes under the pretext of performing a 'special ritual' that would 'multiply' their money hundredfold. The three men, arrested near Majestic Bus Stand on October 25, reportedly confessed to running the fraudulent scheme.

Based on their information, the police apprehended three more suspects from Andhra Pradesh on October 28 and seized ₹6 lakh in ₹2,000 denomination. The accused also disclosed the identity of their associate who had modified the serial numbers and printed details on the notes. He was traced to Yeshwantpur, where the police seized ₹6 lakh in fake ₹2,000 notes and equipment used to alter currency.

In total, fake ₹2,000 with a face value of ₹18 lakh were seized in the case. All ten accused were produced before the court on November 3 and remanded in judicial custody. One woman accused remains absconding, and efforts are under way to trace her.

Explaining the *modus operandi* of the gang, the CCB officials said that it was a bizarre scam involving three men among the accused who posed as 'swamis' and tricked gullible people into believing they could bring a 'rain of money' through a special ritual using ₹2,000 denomination notes.

The accused – identified as Basavaraj alias Satyananda Swami, Mallikarjun, and Mohan alias Muniswamy – would take turns dressing up as holy men to convince people that performing a ritual with specific series of ₹2,000 notes would multiply their money several times over.

The police said the accused used an associate identified as Mubarak and used to tamper original ₹2,000 notes by altering the printed year and serial number. These modified notes were then circulated through agents to unsuspecting victims.

The accused conducted the fake rituals near lakes or ponds, insisting that the 'pooja' must be performed alone, without any family members present.

During the ritual, they told the victims to take a dip in the water to pray for the 'rain of money'. While the victims submerged, the fake swamis would flee with the money.

The gang operated in Bengaluru, Yadgir, Haveri, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu, the police said. So far, the officers have seized ₹18 lakh worth of ₹2,000 denomination notes and the equipment used to tamper with them.

The police are verifying whether the seized notes are genuine or altered.

Rival groups clash over road rage incident; several injured

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 23-year-old cab driver's argument over road rage escalated into a violent clash between two groups in Ashok Nagar police station limits in the early hours of Monday.

Police said the cab driver, who was returning home after having tea, got into an altercation with his rival. The verbal fight soon turned physical, drawing in friends and family members from both sides. In the ensuing melee, several people sustained injuries, including the parents of one of the accused.

The incident occurred when Mohammed Imran, a cab driver from Neelasandra, was returning home after having tea with his two friends, Abdul and Suhail, on a scooter around 1.30 a.m.

The accused, identified as Rahil, Rahul, Raza Abbas, Sameer Annu, Akhil, and Nawaz, allegedly followed him in two bikes and picked up a fight over a road rage incident. The accused had old rivalry with the accused, the police said. While Imran tried to reason with them, Rahil allegedly pulled out a sword and attacked him. Imran sustained injuries on his thigh and fell down from the scooter. The accused allegedly tried to stab him again, but he resisted. The accused later sped away warning him of dire consequences. Imran was later rushed to the hospital for treatment and based on his statement, the police registered a case of attempt to murder and another under Arms Act against the accused. Meanwhile, in retaliation, a group of men allegedly barged into the house of the prime accused, Rahil, in Austin Town and attacked him with lethal weapons. While Rahil managed to escape, the armed gang allegedly beat up his parents and younger brother when they questioned them.

The accused later brought the injured to the police station where Abbas Ali, Rahil's father, collapsed outside the station. Abbas Ali was later admitted to Victoria hospital. Based on the complaint filed by Haseena Taj, Rahil's mother, the police have registered a case.

Domestic help assault: 3 staff suspended, sub-inspector faces action

TH IMPACT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following the alleged assault on a 34-year-old domestic help by the staff of the Varthur police station over allegations of theft, an inquiry has led to the suspension of three policemen. According to officials, on October 30, Priyanka Jhanwal, a resident of Sobha Dream Acres Apartment, lodged a complaint alleging that her domestic help, Sundari Bibi, had stolen a diamond ring.

Sub-inspector Mounesh Doddamani registered a non-cognisable report in connection with the complaint before stepping out of the station.

In his absence, the crime staff, identified as Sanjay Rathod, Santosh Kudari, and Archana, allegedly assaulted the help on the first floor of the police station during questioning. Following the incident, ACP Marathahalli sub-division, conducted an inquiry and submitted a detailed report.

Lack of supervision

Based on the findings, the three personnel were suspended, and Rule 7 proceedings were initiated against sub-inspector Doddamani for lack of supervision. ACP, Marathahalli sub-division, conducted the probe on Tuesday following the order from the City Police Commissioner seeking a report.

Earlier in the day, Home Minister, G. Parameshwara took cognisance of the incident and directed the City Police Commissioner to probe in detail and submit a report.

Man beaten to death by wife's family over marital dispute

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 36-year-old sales executive working with a telecom company was beaten to death allegedly by his wife and her family members over a domestic dispute in Kadugondanahalli on Tuesday.

The deceased, Mohammed Shakeel, a resident of AMC Road in KG Halli, had been married to Raziya Sultan for 12 years. The couple, who have two sons, were reportedly facing marital discord and had filed for divorce, which was pending before a family court.

According to police, around 4.30 p.m. on Saturday, Shakeel and his father Mohammed Samiuddin visited Raziya's brother's flat in an apartment behind Bilal Mosque to discuss a divorce settlement. During the meeting, Samiuddin was said to have urged Raziya's family to finalise the settlement so that Shakeel could move on with his life. The discussion allegedly turned violent after Raziya's family members got enraged. Her brothers reportedly attacked Shakeel, hitting him with helmets even after he collapsed. Shakeel succumbed to severe head injuries on the spot. Samiuddin later approached the K.G. Halli police and lodged a complaint.

A case of murder has been registered against Zabiulla Khan, Imran Khan, Raziya Sultan, Fayaz Khan, and Mubeena Taj . The police have arrested Zabiulla, Imran, and Fayaz, while efforts are on to trace Raziya and Mubeena, a senior police officer said.

Man hacked to death

In another incident, an armed man allegedly hacked a 40-year-old businessman to death in Anekal on Tuesday.

The deceased, identified as Madesh, a resident of Kachanayakanahalli, was a native of Tamil Nadu.

According to the police, Madesh had gone to serve tea to the labourers constructing his house when the assailant barged in armed with a knife and an air gun, attacked him and slit his throat before fleeing the spot.

Passers-by hearing the commotion tried to stop him, but the accused allegedly assaulted them and managed to flee.

Upon receiving the alert, the Hebbagodi Police rushed to the spot and recovered an air gun, knife, metal detector, torch, helmet, and a bag left behind by the accused.

Fingerprint experts and a dog squad were pressed into service to assist in the investigation.

The police said Madesh had been residing in Bengaluru for the past 15 years, running a cigarette distribution business and a provision store and also owned a roadside eatery. He was building a new house using the proceeds from the sale of his ancestral property in Tamil Nadu. His family members were working at the tea stall.

A special team has been formed to track down the assailant.

Man held for damaging Ambedkar statue

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The Chamarajanagar police have arrested a 31-year-old man, identified as Manjunath, for allegedly damaging B.R. Ambedkar's statue and defacing his image on a flex banner in Jyothigowdanapura village in Chamarajanagar district.

Superintendent of Police B.T. Kavitha said that seven special teams had been constituted to investigate the reported damage to Ambedkar's statue between 11 p.m. on October 23 and 5.30 a.m. on October 24 after a case was registered at the Chamarajanagar East Police station under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984. The accused had not only damaged Ambedkar's statue, but also vandalised the idol of Buddha at Lumbini Buddha Vihar, while also defacing flex banners of Ambedkar in Jyothigowdanapura.

Ms. Kavitha said that the police examined 86 CCTVs in and around Jyothigowdanapura.

Inspector placed under suspension for dereliction of duty

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The inspector attached to the Bellandur Police Station has been suspended on the charges of dereliction of duty and lapses on his part following allegations that the staff at the station had demanded a bribe from a grieving man to hand over the Unnatural Death Report (UDR) and post-mortem report of his daughter, who died of brain haemorrhage at a private hospital. Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh ordered the suspension after an inquiry was conducted by an ACP. Shivakumar, a former BPCL official, had accused the inspector and other staff of demanding bribe for an official favour right from conducting post-mortem, ambulance service, and issuance of the UDR certificate.

He alleged that even when his daughter was in a critical condition, the officials insisted on payments and failed to respond with basic courtesy. A few days earlier, the victim's social media post went viral. Whitefield Deputy Commissioner of Police K. Parashuram had suspended Bellandur Police sub-inspector Santosh and Constable Goraknath, with a detailed inquiry still in progress.

The Commissioner had directed Mr. Parashuram to probe the allegations further, after whicha report was submitted confirming lapses on the inspector's part.

NHRC NOTICE

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Nigerian national held for peddling MDMA and cocaine

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bandepalya Police have arrested a Nigerian national for allegedly peddling narcotic substances, including MDMA tablets and cocaine powder, near Somasandrapalya Lake in the city.

Based on a tip-off received on October 30, the police conducted a raid and apprehended the accused, identified as Chebugo Gadwin, 45.

During interrogation, the accused reportdly revealed that he came to India in 2018 on a business visa and was initially involved in garment trade in Delhi. About three months ago, he shifted to Bengaluru and started living with an acquaintance. During this period, he allegedly started buying MDMA tablets and cocaine at low prices from an unidentified supplier in the city and selling them at higher rates to college students and other customers.

Remanded

The police seized 752 gm of MDMA tablets, 8 gm, and 37 mg of cocaine powder, and a two-wheeler used in the illegal trade. The total value of the seized contraband was estimated at ₹75 lakh. The accused was produced before the court on October 31 and remanded in judicial custody.

In a separate case, the Malleswaram police, based on information that a person was peddling ganja and hashish (weed oil) near the Jataka Stand on R.P. Road, conducted a raid and apprehended the accused. Upon interrogation, the accused revealed that he was from another State and had come to Bengaluru for his education. Due to financial difficulties in paying college fees, he purchased ganja and hashish at a low price from an unknown person and started selling them to customers for a higher profit.

The police seized 360 gm of ganja, 1,250 ml of weed oil, a weighing machine, a mobile phone, and ₹1,500 cash, worth ₹15.8 lakh from him.

Case registered

A case was registered under the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, and the accused was produced before the court and remanded in judicial custody.

IISc professor Arpita Patra summits highest volcanic peaks of four continents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has summited the highest volcanic peaks of four continents in the last one year, with the latest being accomplished on October 24 when she successfully climbed Pico de Orizaba in Mexico - the highest volcanic peak in North America.

Arpita Patra who is a professor at IISc's Department of Computer Science and Automation has climbed the highest volcanic peaks of four continents: Mt. Kilimanjaro (5,895 metres), Africa in July 2024; Mt. Elbrus (5,642 metres), Europe in August 2024; Mt. Giluwe (4,367 metres) Oceania in May 2025; and Mt. Pico de Orizaba (5,636 metres) in North America.

Arpita Patra began her mountaineering journey in 2024. She then did a course at the National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sport in Arunachal Pradesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Childhood dream

Prof. Patra, who has been with the IISc since 2014, said that mountaineering was a childhood dream which she had not been able to pursue. "This was a childhood dream which I could not pursue earlier as I come from a very humble background and grew up in a very small village in West Bengal. Growing up, my focus was on completing my studies following which I pursued a career in academics. In 2024, I started my mountaineering journey when I summited Mt. Kilimanjaro and Mt. Elbrus."

Following this, I did a course at the National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sport in Arunachal Pradesh," Prof. Patra told *The Hindu*.

She said that summiting the Pico de Orizaba marks a major milestone in her mountaineering journey.

Her journey to summit Pico de Orizaba started on October 19 and she completed it on October 24, along with her guide.

Challenging climb

"I had earlier climbed the highest mountains of three continents. Pico de Orizaba was, by far, the most challenging climb I have undertaken. The ascent was technically demanding, involving glacier travel and a relentless 45-degree incline up the conical volcanic slope. On summit day, we gained nearly 1,450 meters of elevation, climbing from 4,200 m to 5,636 m via the Jamapa Glacier route on the northern face. What makes this achievement particularly meaningful to me is that I am not a full-time mountaineer," she said.

In preparation for the expedition, Prof. Patra said that on a daily basis she followed a four hour workout routine which involved either running, cycling or swimming along with strength building exercises.

Gamma-ray bursts from black hole ‘morsels’ could expose quantum gravity

Gravity and quantum physics interact at the event horizons of black holes, though physicists don’t understand all the details; a new theoretical study has proposed that very small black holes, dubbed black hole ‘morsels,’ possibly formed in violent cosmic collisions could serve as more unique probes of quantum gravity

Qudsia Gani

We know gravity as the force that keeps our feet on the ground and makes things fall ‘down.’ It also keeps the moon orbiting the earth and holds the planets around the Sun. However, when we zoom into the tiniest scales of reality, far smaller than atoms, the rules of physics begin to change. The strange laws of quantum mechanics take over, where particles can appear and vanish, or even exist in a superposition of two places at once. Nothing is completely certain in this quantum realm.

The other forces of nature, such as electromagnetism, have been successfully described in the quantum framework. Gravity has however resisted such treatment. Its strength is extraordinarily low compared to the other forces, making the quantum effects of gravity hard to probe. The mathematics required to merge quantum mechanics with gravity is also notoriously difficult. Physicists also lack the technology and experiments to fully explore it.

Natural laboratory

This is why a black hole is often cited as the best natural laboratory to study quantum gravity. These are regions of spacetime where gravity is so intense that nothing, not even light, can escape. Yet black holes are not entirely ‘black’. In the 1970s, the English theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking showed that they should leak a faint amount of energy, now called Hawking radiation, due to quantum effects near the event horizon, the boundary beyond which nothing can escape.

This prediction suggested that gravity and quantum physics do interact, though physicists don’t yet understand all the details. In this context, a new theoretical study proposes that very small black holes – dubbed “black hole morsels” – possibly formed in violent cosmic collisions could serve as more unique probes of quantum gravity.

“Black hole morsels are hypothetical micro-black holes, far smaller than their parent black holes – roughly comparable in mass to asteroids – and therefore much hotter,” Giacomo Cacciapaglia, a researcher at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and co-author of the new study, said in a statement.

The paper was accepted for publication in *Nuclear Physics B* in August.

Radiate strongly

Black hole morsels are remnants of black hole mergers and could provide unprecedented insights into the quantum nature of space and time. Remarkably, the researchers have argued that signals from these morsels could, in favourable conditions, already be detectable with present-day gamma-ray telescopes.

“Our work shows that if these objects form, their radiation might already be observable using current gamma-ray telescopes,” Francesco Sannino, a theoretical physicist at the University of Southern Denmark and another coauthor, said.

The idea rests on the question: how does gravity behave at the quantum level?

Like their parent black holes, the morsels would also emit Hawking radiation, but at much higher temperatures. Large astrophysical black holes are far too cold for their radiation to be detectable. Small black holes, however, would radiate strongly, in principle producing observable high-energy photons and neutrinos.

Because of their elevated temperatures, the morsels would also evaporate quickly, releasing bursts of high-energy particles. The calculations suggest that these bursts would form a distinct, detectable signature that could manifest as a delayed emission of gamma rays after a black hole merger event.

Delayed burst

Although morsels have not yet been observed, the researchers have contended that their formation is plausible. In the extreme conditions of a black hole merger, the collision might ‘pinch off’ small, dense pockets of spacetime sufficient to form morsels. These would then evaporate through Hawking radiation, with lifetimes ranging from milliseconds to years depending on their mass.

Detectors such as HAWC in Mexico would be well-suited to search for the predicted observational signature of radiation from black hole morsels. JORDANAGOODMAN (CC BY-SA)

> We showed that if black hole morsels are created during mergers, they would produce a burst of high-energy gamma rays, with the delay time related to their mass
>
> **GIACOMO CACCIAPAGLIA**
> FRENCH NATIONAL CENTRE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Detecting Hawking radiation from morsels would be more than an observational novelty. Hawking radiation carries imprints of the underlying quantum structure of spacetime. Its spectrum could, in principle, reveal deviations from existing theories of subatomic particles and point to ‘new physics.’ While such interpretations remain speculative, the morsel scenario offers a rare and testable window into quantum gravity – an area that usually lies far beyond experimental reach.

Because particle accelerators like the Large Hadron Collider in Europe can’t probe such extreme energy scales, these natural laboratories could act as “cosmic accelerators,” giving physicists access to energy regimes otherwise inaccessible on the earth.

The predicted observational signature would be a delayed burst of high-energy gamma rays radiating more isotropically – i.e., equally in all directions – than traditional gamma-ray bursts, which are usually concentrated into beams. Several existing instruments are well suited to search for such bursts. They include the High Energy Stereoscopic System (HESS) in Namibia, the High-Altitude Water Cherenkov Observatory (HAWC) in Mexico, the Large High Altitude Air Shower Observatory (LHAASO) in China, and the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope in orbit around the earth.

True nature of space

Going beyond theory, the researchers also analysed data collected by HESS, when it followed up on the large black hole merger events, to place upper limits on the masses that could have been pinched off as morsels. They called this their first attempt to test their hypothesis observationally.

“We showed that if black hole morsels are created during mergers, they would produce a burst of high-energy gamma rays, with the delay time related to their mass,” Dr. Cacciapaglia said. “Our analysis shows this new type of multi-messenger signal could give us direct experimental access to quantum gravitational phenomena.”

Despite the excitement, many uncertainties remain. The precise conditions in which morsels might form are not yet known, and full simulations of the merger dynamics are lacking. The authors also said they plan to refine their models and explore more realistic mass scenarios, while astronomers continue to search through current and future datasets.

Ultimately, if morsels exist, they could help answer some of the deepest questions in physics about the true nature of space, time, and gravity.

(Qudsia Gani is an assistant professor in the Department of Physics, Government Degree College Pattan, Baramulla. qudsiagani6@gmail.com)

THE GIST

Gravity has resisted description in the quantum framework. Its strength is extraordinarily low, making the quantum effects of gravity hard to probe. The mathematics required is also notoriously difficult

A black hole is cited as the best natural laboratory to study quantum gravity. Yet black holes are not entirely ‘black.’ Stephen Hawking showed that they should leak a faint amount of energy, now called Hawking radiation, due to quantum effects near the event horizon

To verify this radiation, researchers are exploring black hole morsels. This is important because Hawking radiation carries imprints of the underlying quantum structure of spacetime. It could reveal deviations from existing theories of subatomic particles and point to ‘new physics’

BIG SHOT

A diver retrieves a cage containing mussels used as bioindicators to monitor microplastic and chemical pollution during a mission in the Saronic Gulf, Greece, on September 8. A bioindicator is an organism that senses and responds to its environmental conditions, based on which scientists can infer them indirectly. REUTERS

QUESTION CORNER

Indian satellites: laden with features

Q: Why are India’s communications satellites so heavy

A: On November 2, ISRO launched the GSAT-7R satellite for the Indian Navy. The satellite’s launch mass was 4,410 kg — rendering the launch the heaviest of a communications satellite from Indian soil.

India’s communications satellites are heavy because they combine wide coverage, high power, and long service life in one spacecraft.

To serve the entire country and nearby seas, the communications payload needs to support many channels across multiple frequencies, including the C, Ku, and Ka bands. These in turn require many large deployable antennas, high-power amplifiers, waveguides, filters, switches, and either many analog transponders or flexible digital processors.

The antennas and pointing mechanisms also need to hold tight alignment in space, so their structure and thermal control systems add more mass.

The satellites’ high throughput demands several kilowatt of electrical power available for 12-15 years, so satellites carry large solar arrays, large batteries, and power-conditioning units, plus structures to shield them in space.

The GSAT-30 communications satellite. ISRO

The spacecrafts’ long life demands redundancy, ergo they’re fit with duplicate computers, radios, and power units.

Getting to the geostationary orbit (GTO) adds more mass in propellant. The GTO is a highly elliptical orbit; once a rocket places a satellite in this orbit, the satellite will use its own propulsion to move into a geostationary (like GSAT-7R) or geosynchronous orbit.

The satellite also needs to perform station-keeping manoeuvres and manage its momentum. The chemical propulsion systems still common on many Indian satellites thus need significant quantities of fuel for these tasks.

For feedback and suggestions
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After seven years, two convicted for killing private firm employee in road rage incident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Additional City Civil and Sessions Court on Monday convicted and sentenced two youths to rigorous life imprisonment for allegedly bludgeoning a 25-year-old private firm employee to death over a trivial road rage incident in the limits of the Mico Layout police station limits seven years ago.

Coincidentally, the verdict came on the birthday of the victim, Siddarth Koushal, a native of Bihar, who was working for a private firm in the city.

According to the prosecution, Siddarth and his friend – who owned a restaurant in Electronics City – were returning home in a car on June 26, 2018 around 3 a.m. after closing the eatery. Two of their friends followed them on a bike. The duo had stopped the car by the roadside to relieve themselves when the accused – Girish, son of a builder, and his friend Mahesh – brushed their bike against the car.

An argument broke out after Siddarth noticed a dent and shouted at them. Enraged, the duo allegedly returned, picked up a stick lying nearby, and attacked Siddarth. By the time his friends rushed to his rescue, the assailants had fled, leaving him grievously injured.

A nearby paan beeda shop owner, who was sleeping outside his shop, woke up to the commotion and recognised one of the attackers. Siddarth, who was profusely bleeding, was rushed to a private hospital, where he succumbed to injuries later.

Based on a complaint, then the Mico Layout Inspector, R.M. Ajay, registered a case of murder and, with the help of the shop owner's statement, tracked down Girish and later arrested Mahesh. The police collected technical evidence and witness statements before filing a charge sheet in the court.

While Girish remained in judicial custody due to the gravity of the offence, Mahesh was released on bail. During the trial, several eyewitnesses, including the paan shop owner and two of Siddarth's friends, turned hostile, causing delays in the proceedings. However, strong technical evidence and the effective arguments of Public Prosecutor Mahalingappa ensured the conviction of both accused.

Siddarth's father, Koushalendra Kumar, an advocate by profession, attended every hearing, even during the COVID-19 lockdown. Following the verdict, he met the police team and distributed sweets as a gesture of gratitude. "Siddarth was my elder son. We have not celebrated any festival since his death, but today we lit a lamp after the judgment," Mr. Kumar told the police team.

'Asphalt Hebbal flyover immediately'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The stretch on the notorious Hebbal flyover is filled with potholes and has turned into a bad stretch, becoming a hurdle for vehicles to navigate the stretch, observed Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao. He instructed officials to immediately asphalt the entire flyover again, during an inspection on Tuesday.

Traffic congestion and water logging on Ballari Road was his main focus during the inspection of several areas in Bengaluru North City Corporation on Tuesday. He instructed civic officials, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL) and National Highway Authority of India officials to coordinate and implement measures to ease traffic congestion on the stretch. He directed BMRCL officials to clear debris from sites where metro work is completed to make way for traffic.

Tiger attacks: Farmers stage protest in Mysuru

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Farmers gathered in front of the Forest Department's office in Mysuru on Tuesday to voice their displeasure against the alleged negligence by the department in connection with the spate of attacks on farmers by wild animals in the recent past.

The farmers, belonging to the Federation of State Farmers' Association and State Sugarcane Growers' Association, said that the attacks had spread panic among the farmers.

Dance instructor killed in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old dance instructor was killed after a truck rammed his stationary car, near Pemmanahalli, in Nelamangala early on Tuesday.

The deceased has been identified as Sudheendra, a resident of Thyamagondlu village.

According to the police, Sudheendra took the delivery of his new car on Monday. On Tuesday morning, while driving along the Pemmanahalli road to visit his relative, the car reportedly developed a snag and came to a halt on the middle of the road. He parked the car on the roadside and stepped out to inspect the issue, when a speeding lorry coming from behind crashed into the stationary car, resulting in Sudheendra's instant death.

Sudheendra had gained recognition through popular Kannada television reality shows, including *Dance Show*. He was running a dance school in Dobspet.

Driver arrested

The Dobbspet police seized the truck and registered a case against the driver, identified as P. Kumar, and arrested him. .

OBITUARY

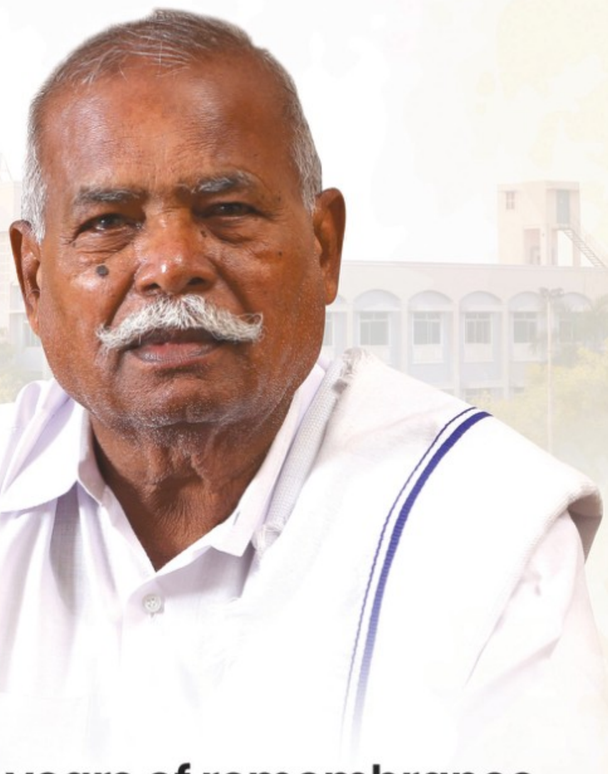
Prema Ramanujam

22.04.1939 - 03.11.2025

A charming woman of grace and poise, our Prema - Amma or Paati— spoke only kindness. She was insatiably curious, devouring books and seeking to understand the lives and hearts of those around her. Inspired by her many literary heroes, her penmanship was elegant and sharp, laced with wit and humour. A patient and fiercely empowering wife, mother and grandmother, she taught us many things- most enduringly, how to remain a student for life.

She will be deeply missed by R Ramanujam, Rupa & Srikanth, Deepa & Ananth, Sumanth, Sreevalli & Aditya, Tulsi & Pranav and Sanjana Tara.

REMEMBERING OUR VISIONARY LEADER



Marking 2 years of remembrance

Shri M.KUMARASAMY EX.VM

Founder, M.Kumarasamy College of Engineering, Karur.

1933 - 2023

Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts. Your light still leads us.

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K.Ramakrishnan Group of Institutions, Karur & Trichy
Krish Toyota, Coimbatore & Chengalpattu • KR Tasty Foods, Karur
Ramakrishna Poultry Farm, Karur • K.Ramakrishnan Clean Energy

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The rise in eye problems as smog grips national capital

60 In per cent. Delhi's toxic post-Deepavali smog has led to a 60% rise in eye-related ailments such as allergies, dryness, redness, and burning sensation. Ophthalmologists attributed the spike to prolonged exposure to particulate matter and chemical residues from fireworks. PTI

Amount released to operate two iron ore mining blocks in Goa

400 In ₹ crore. Mine owners in Goa have welcomed the Union government's release of ₹400 crore as special assistance to operationalise two iron ore mining blocks, saying the funds will help boost infrastructure and promote sustainable mining. PTI

Employees using artificial intelligence at work in India

92 In per cent. India has the highest artificial intelligence adoption rate in the Asia Pacific region, with 92% of employees using the technology at work, according to a report by the Boston Consulting Group. The regional average stands at 78%, ahead of the global average of 72%. PTI

The increase in Spotify's paying subscribers

12 In per cent. Spotify reported 713 million active users by the end of the third quarter of 2025, with paying subscribers rising 12% to 281 million, the company said. Revenue grew 7% driven by strong subscriber growth despite a decline in advertising. Operating income rose 28% to 582 million euros. AFP

Value of undeclared assets owned by an Uttar Pradesh DSP

100 In ₹ crore. Uttar Pradesh Police officer Rishikant Shukla, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, has been suspended following an inquiry triggered by an SIT probe that uncovered undeclared assets worth around ₹100 crore. PTI

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How BRICS is challenging SWIFT

The BRICS grouping's motivation to challenge Western financial dominance is driven by a desire for greater financial sovereignty and reduced exposure to U.S. sanctions. However, navigating the maze of individual countries' ambitions with respect to their own payment systems could dent early progress towards this goal

ECONOMIC NOTES

Biswajit Dhar

For over a decade, the BRICS have taken a series of steps showing their increasing determination to reduce dependence on the dollar-dominated international financial system. The Fortaleza Summit in 2014 marked the beginning of this process with the grouping taking the initiative of setting up financial institutions to meet not only their needs but also of other developing countries. The New Development Bank, the BRICS' development bank, and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement, their lender of last resort, was the first time developing countries had established financial institutions, until then, the exclusive preserve of advanced countries.

The following year, after the imposition of Western sanctions on Russia for deployment of its troops in Crimea, the BRICS grouping decided to explore the potential of expanding the use of their national currencies in inter se transactions. In 2017, the grouping agreed to communicate closely to enhance currency cooperation, including through currency swap, local currency settlement, and local currency direct investment. At the turn of the decade, the grouping agreed to set up the BRICS Payments Task Force to develop systems to facilitate transactions between member countries. This step seemed to come together at the Kazan Summit in 2024 wherein BRICS leaders underscored the importance of "strengthening of correspondent banking networks within BRICS and enabling settlements in local currencies in line with BRICS Cross-Border Payments Initiative".

New currency: The plenary session of the 16th BRICS summit, in Kazan, Russia on October 23, 2024. ANI

Challenging status quo

The BRICS Cross-Border Payments Initiative, or BRICS Pay is the most concrete step that the grouping has taken to explore the possibility of reducing their dependence on the "SWIFT network", the messaging system used by over 11,000 banks and financial institutions worldwide for international money transfers, and which is controlled by the G-10 central banks. BRICS' motivation to challenge Western financial dominance is driven by a desire for greater financial sovereignty and reduced exposure to U.S. sanctions. The decision to include Iran in the grouping in 2024, a country that has long faced similar sanctions, lent further relevance to this objective. However, the development that attracted most attention was the symbolic step taken by the BRICS during the Kazan summit to unveil a BRICS banknote. This symbolic move ignited discussions about the intent of emerging economies to move away from the dominance of the dollar. This was especially so since it raised the hackles of the then President-elect Donald Trump who threatened to impose 100% tariffs on members of the grouping if they were to "create a new BRICS currency, [or] back any other currency to replace the mighty U.S. Dollar".

Building BRICS Pay

Amid these developments, the possibility that holds out maximum promise is BRICS Pay. This sentiment was reflected in the grouping's Rio Summit Declaration earlier in the year wherein they "agreed to continue the discussion on the BRICS Cross-Border Payments Initiative, and [acknowledged] the progress made by the BRICS Payment Task Force (BPTF) in identifying possible pathways to support the continuation of discussions on the potential for greater interoperability of BRICS payment systems".

Clearly, BRICS is in a good position to develop a new financial network. Besides the strong motivation to bypass the dollar-dominated system and avoid Western sanctions, these countries have the necessary infrastructure to put in place BRICS Pay. The Russian System for Transfer of Financial Messages (SPFS), the Chinese Cross-Border Interbank Payment System (CIPS), India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Brazil's Pix system are well-equipped to support the proposed network. Of course, the interoperability of these systems is essential for creating a cohesive BRICS-led payment infrastructure that can rival SWIFT in scope and reliability, albeit within a more limited geographic and political bloc.

A prototype demonstration of BRICS Pay was unveiled in Moscow in October 2024, marking an important landmark in the project's progress. Expectedly, Russia is most enthusiastic about this project, but the remaining original BRICS nations seem to be more circumspect because of interests in promoting their own platforms globally. India's UPI is accepted in nine countries, but is yet to find acceptance within BRICS. China's increasing clout in the international financial system and the prominence its currency (the RMB) has received after it was included in the basket of currencies making up the Special Drawing Right has increased the acceptance of CIPS, which currently has participants in more than 120 countries, including all BRICS members with the exception of India. Brazil's Pix system, introduced in 2020 and operated by the country's central bank, is used across several Latin American countries. While navigating through the maze of ambitions of individual countries to promote their own payment systems could dent the progress towards an early realisation of BRICS Pay, Mr. Trump's aggressive intent, particularly against members of the grouping, could force them into a political understanding towards launching their payment system, sooner than expected.

Biswajit Dhar is a trade economist and former professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

THE GIST

- In 2017, the grouping agreed to communicate closely to enhance currency cooperation, including through currency swap, local currency settlement, and local currency direct investment.
- The BRICS Cross-Border Payments Initiative, or BRICS Pay is the most concrete step that the grouping has taken to explore the possibility of reducing their dependence on the "SWIFT network", the messaging system used by over 11,000 banks and financial institutions worldwide for international money transfers.
- A prototype demonstration of BRICS Pay was unveiled in Moscow in October 2024, marking an important landmark in the project's progress.

What is the TLP challenge for the Pakistan government?

How did the Tehreek-i-Labbaik emerge? Why has the Pakistan government banned the party?

Brighty Ann Sarah
Preetha. R

The story so far:

On October 23, for the second time in five years, Pakistan has proscribed the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), a political party, supported by the Barelvis in the Punjab province.

Who are the TLP?

The TLP is a far-right Islamist party founded in 2017 by Bareli cleric Khadim Hussain Rizvi, drawing support from Pakistan's Sunni Barelvi community. The party started by organising around the conviction of Mumtaz Qadri. Qadri had assassinated Punjab governor Salman Taseer over opposing blasphemy laws. Qadri's supporters, mostly Barelvis, hailed him as a martyr for defending Islam. The TLP gained prominence demanding his release and leading protests after his execution. The party rose with its hardline defence of blasphemy laws, demand for Sharia-based governance, and opposition to Western influence and minority rights.

In the 2018 elections, the TLP won 2.2 million votes, becoming the fifth-largest party. Later that year, it led nationwide protests against Asia Bibi's (who was arrested on blasphemy charges) acquittal, challenging the verdict and reinforcing its image as a staunch defender of religious causes. In 2020, the TLP led large-scale protests against France over blasphemous caricatures and secured a government deal to expel the French ambassador and boycott French products.

How did the TLP rise to fame?

The TLP's rhetoric on populist issues has centred on blasphemy. Following Mumtaz Qadri's execution, the party mobilised around widespread outrage caused by the execution. Leveraging mosque networks, social media outreach, and street mobilisation, it rapidly consolidated support among Punjab's Barelvi populace, and urban, middle and lower-middle classes in Sindh. Financial backing from Barelvi businessmen and clerics strengthened its organisational capacity. Even though there were efforts earlier as well to politically mobilise Barelvi support, the TLP focussed its mobilisation on emotionally charged issues like blasphemy. This approach resonated strongly among lower-and middle-income Barelvi mosque-goers especially in Punjab, enabling the group to achieve wider grassroots appeal and durable mass mobilisation. Thus, TLP transformed into a dominant politico-religious force capable of pressuring governments.

One of the TLP's greatest strengths lies in grassroot organisation and the ability to sustain large, disruptive protests that paralyse urban centres, pressure state institutions, and amplify its religious agenda. The party's ability to sustain protests for prolonged periods stems from its dedicated cadre, financial support from followers, and exploitation of public sentiment on sensitive religious issues. TLP's street power thus remains a persistent challenge to curbing their impact, compelling state negotiations while amplifying religious extremism.

Moreover, the government's position on the TLP has never been consistent; it has swung between coercion, including arrests and bans, and compromise through policy concessions and lifting restrictions. Neither approach has sustainably weakened the TLP – coercion often escalates violence, while compromise signals state vulnerability.

What next?

For Pakistan, a ban may provide immediate containment but is unlikely to yield long-term results. Sustained enforcement and political commitment are critical to prevent cycles of unrest. Given the TLP's popular and electoral support, an outright ban risks alienating constituents and complicating monitoring. A calibrated, law-based approach rather than reactive suppression is thus necessary.

Brighty Ann Sarah and Preetha. R are post graduate students at Stella Maris College, Chennai, and interned at NIAS, Bengaluru.

THE GIST

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K-RIDE invites fresh tenders for Mallige Line civil works

The tenders have been re-invited to complete the pending works of Corridor-2 after the termination by L&T

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Ltd. (K-RIDE) has invited fresh tenders for the balance civil works of Corridor-2, also known as the Mallige Line, between Benniganahalli and Chikkabanavara.

The project has been split into three separate packages to expedite completion of the long-delayed Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP).

The decision comes in the wake of what was termed the 'unilateral and illegal' termination of contracts for both Corridor-2 (Mallige Line) and Corridor-4 (Kanaka Line) by Larsen and Toubro (L&T), which was the original contractor for the two corridors. According to K-RIDE officials, the company has now re-invited tenders to complete the pending works of Corridor-2 after the termination by L&T. "The tenders issued outline specific design and construction scopes for each package," an official said.

The decision comes in the wake of what was termed the 'unilateral and illegal' termination of contracts for both Corridor-2 (Mallige Line) and Corridor-4 (Kanaka Line) by Larsen and Toubro.
SUDHAKARA JAIN

Three packages

Under Package 1, the tender covers the design and construction of an elevated viaduct, including ramps, for a 7.795-km stretch between Benniganahalli and Shettihalli. It also includes the design and construction of a double-decker viaduct with a flyover at Level 1 and BSRP tracks at Level 2, spanning 1.2 km between Lottegollahalli and Yeshwanthpur. This package includes the Mathikere station and the station at Benniganahalli, with a completion deadline of 24 months. According to the officials, package 2 involves the design and construction of an at-grade section covering 11.569 km between Benniganahalli-Banaswadi and Banaswadi-Hebbal. It includes the station boxes at Nagavara and Kanakanagar, along with the construction of major and minor bridges, road under-bridges (RUBs), and retaining walls. This package has an 18-month completion target.

Meanwhile, Package 3 focuses on the at-grade section between Yeshwanthpur and Chikkabanavara, spanning 5.8 km. It includes an elevated viaduct section of 185 metres and has also been allotted an 18-month deadline.

Tenders re-invited for Mallige Line

Reason: Termination of L&T's contract for Corridors 2 and 4

TENDER DETAILS

Package 1 7.795-km elevated viaduct (Benniganahalli–Shettihalli) + 1.2-km double-decker viaduct (Lottegollahalli–Yeshwanthpur), with Benniganahalli and Mattikere stations — 24 months

Package 2 11.569-km at-grade section (Benniganahalli–Hebbal) with Nagavara and Kanakanagar station boxes — 18 months

Package 3 5.8-km at-grade section (Yeshwanthpur–Chikkabanavara) + 185-m elevated viaduct — 18 months

Decision at board meeting

The decision to float fresh tenders was taken during a K-RIDE Board meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary of Karnataka in October. The Chief Secretary also serves as the Chairman of K-RIDE. The board has authorised the Managing Director to initiate the tender process to ensure that work on the suburban rail project continues without further delay.

The official said, "The decision follows the advice of the Advocate General of Karnataka, who recommended calling for new tenders even as arbitration proceedings between K-RIDE and L&T continue."

'Karnataka to turn its demographic strength into demographic dividend'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka currently stands at a unique demographic crossroads: over 60% of our population is below the age of 35, and nearly 1.2 crore young people will enter the workforce in the next decade, said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah while inaugurating the Bengaluru Skill Summit, the State's maiden initiative to train and nurture its most previous asset, the human capital.

Addressing the audience here on Tuesday, he said, "This is an extraordinary opportunity if we equip this generation with the right skills, mindset, and confidence."

He said the Bengaluru Skill Summit, a new annual exposition created by the State to focus on skill development, reskilling and deskilling was more than an event.

"It is a movement to prepare our people for careers in a rapidly transforming world. This event is part of the commitment by the government to bring together the best minds from industry, academia, start-ups, and the youth to re-imagine the future of skills, jobs, and innovation," the Chief Minister said.

The summit will showcase emerging funding models, technological enablers, and partnerships that will shape the next decade of skilling in Karnataka.

"This is how we will turn Karnataka's demographic strength into a demographic dividend, and ensure that every youth becomes a builder of the new Karnataka," he said.

In his inaugural address, he said, "the Buddha once compared the head to the seat of wisdom, the heart to the source of compassion, and the hands to the instrument of service. Only when the head, heart, and hand work together does a person become complete. This harmony of intellect, empathy, and ability is what true skill development must aim for."

Karnataka has always been at the forefront of skilling, and the State was among the first in India to create a dedicated Department for Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood in 2016-17. He also clarified that it was (initiation of this event) not a bureaucratic move, it was a visionary step to unify all skill initiatives under one umbrella, with one mission, to make Karnataka Skills Gateway to the World.

However, he said skill was not built in a day, it was built through patience, perseverance, and continuous practice.

Giving a snapshot on the State's various initiatives towards skill development, Mr. Siddaramaiah said, through Chief Minister Kaushalya Karnataka Yojana (CMKKY), the target was to train 5 lakh youth, but the State exceeded that target.

Between 2013 and 18, the State started 100 new ITIs, upgraded 104 ITI buildings, and introduced 11,835 short-term and 19,500 long-term training programmes through Government Tool Room and Training Centers, he said.

Under Yuva Yuga, the State imparted advanced digital skills on over 1.10 lakh youth in IT, electronics, and animation sectors. Karnataka also conducted 16 mega job fairs, connecting over 52,000 youth to employment opportunities, and 75 Mini job melas

BJP and BNP slam tunnel road project; call for focus on public transport

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) on Tuesday released a statement opposing the proposed tunnel road project in Bengaluru.

The move comes two days after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) launched a campaign against the project. Both parties accused the Congress government of prioritising a 'lucrative' and 'unscientific' project over the city's genuine mobility needs.

In a statement, the BNP said that for decades, successive governments had failed to prioritise Bengaluru's core mobility requirements. "The metro is years behind schedule, the suburban rail remains a distant dream, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC)'s fleet has stagnated at around 6,000 buses with no meaningful route planning, and feeder systems, cycling lanes, and footpaths are in shambles," the BNP said.

It added that while every time an elevated corridor or tunnel project was proposed, the government acted with enthusiasm, it was 'not out of public interest, but because such mega-projects were lucrative'. The party asserted that what Bengaluru truly needed was a holistic and accountable transport strategy, starting with the completion of all pending public transport projects. "Only then can we assess real choke points and plan long-term solutions. Until then, the BNP vehemently opposes the tunnel project, which is premature, misplaced, and a distraction from fixing the city's real mobility priorities," the statement said.

Echoing similar concerns, the BJP accused the State government of unfairly targeting Bengaluru's Lalbagh botanical garden with the tunnel project.

SWR launches 'MUTS Sahayak' ticketing scheme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to streamline the ticketing process, South Western Railway (SWR) has launched the Mobile Unreserved Ticketing System (MUTS) Sahayak Scheme at the KSR Bengaluru Station. This makes SWR the first railway zone in the country to introduce the initiative.

Under the scheme, trained MUTS Sahayaks will use MUTS handheld devices to issue unreserved tickets to passengers. The move is aimed at easing congestion at ticket counters and providing commuters with a quicker, hassle-free option for purchasing tickets, according to officials.

NSG-1 category station

The KSR Bengaluru is among five NSG-1 category stations identified by the Railway Board for the pilot implementation of the MUTS Sahayak model.

"The launch of the MUTS Sahayak Scheme marks an important step towards enhancing passenger convenience through the use of technology. By enabling Sahayaks to issue unreserved tickets through handheld MUTS devices, we are providing passengers with an additional ticketing option and reducing the pressure on conventional counters," said Manjunath Kanamadi, Chief Public Relations Officer, SWR.

Revenue

Since the introduction of the MUTS from October 30 to November 3, 6,212 tickets were sold, generating a revenue of ₹4,63,110.

Meanwhile, in the same period, the Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) at the KSR Bengaluru City railway station recorded a footfall of 1,46,762 passengers, according to the SWR.

Addressing challenges

The officials said that the move would help address one of the biggest challenges faced by daily commuters, long queues in front of ticket counters. "With the MUTS Sahayaks now assisting passengers directly, the need for opening additional counters at several stations may also reduce," Mr. Kanamadi added.

Death of wild elephants: Farmer held

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The Belagavi police arrested a farmer on charges of causing the death of wild elephants at Nagaragali range in Khanapur taluk. Another farmer booked under the same provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act is absconding.

Officers arrested Ganapathi Sateri, in the border of whose fields the elephants were found dead in Sulegali village.

Shivaji Gurav, another farmer, is absconding. The action follows Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre's statement that the government had taken the death of the wild elephants very seriously. The elephants were electrocuted on Sunday.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 05
RISE 06:14 SET 17:52
RISE 17:37 SET 05:43

THURSDAY, NOV. 06
RISE 06:15 SET 17:52
RISE 18:32 SET 06:48

FRIDAY, NOV. 07
RISE 06:15 SET 17:52
RISE 19:34 SET 07:56

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	29	19
Bengaluru	28	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm. Night will be slight cool. Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Discussion held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bureau of Indian Standards organised a 'Manak Manthan' - Technical Discussion on Milk and Milk Products Standards on October 31.

The event aimed to enhance awareness and understanding of Indian standards in the dairy sector.

Satheeshkanth SSM, Consultant, BIS Bengaluru, presented an overview of BIS activities.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of our client **Sri. C. M. RAMESHA, S/o. Sri. Muddalingaiah,** to bring to the notice of the general public that the (1) Sale deed dated 22.08.2012, Doc.No.TVR-1-02176-2012-13, CD.No.TVRD124 & (2) Gift deed dated 07.12.2016, Doc.No.TVR-1-03382-2016-17, CD.No.TVRD229 both Registered at Sub-Registrar Jayanagara, (Tavarakere) Bangalore in respect of the Schedule Property are lost/ misplaced.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned documents, they shall return the same or contact the undersigned in writing within **07 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE:

The property bearing **Site No.7,** V. P. Khata No.15/7, PID No.15020030240252045 4, in the layout known as **"SLN CITY",** formed in Sy. Nos. 3, 4/2, 4/3 and others of **Sulivara Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** measuring ExW **12 Mtrs.,** & NxS **18 Mtrs.**, in all **216 Sq. Mtrs,** and bounded on the:-

East by : Site No. 6, West by : Site No. 8, North by : Private Property, South by : Road

Shivakumar, Advocate
M/s. RASHI LEGAL
No.B2-1250/51, Manu Teja Towers, A Dasarahalli Magadi Main Road, Bangalore (North) -560079
M-9538178060
Place: Bengaluru Dated: 4th November 2025

विद्युत सेवा आयोग
उत्तर प्रदेश पावर कारपोरेशन लि0
(उ0प्र0 सरकार का उपक्रम)
एस0एल0डी0सी0 परिसर (निकट मंत्री आवास) विभूति खण्ड, फेज–2
गोमतीनगर, लखनऊ–226010

सूचना

उ0प्र0 पावर कारपोरेशन लि0 में "कम्पनी–सचिव Fixed term Basis के एक पद पर चयन हेतु निर्गत विज्ञापन सं0 03/VSA/2025/CS दिनांक 08.10.2025 के अंतर्गत आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि को **दिनांक 19.11.2025** तक विस्तारित किया जाता है। मूल विज्ञापन कारपोरेशन की वेबसाइट **www.uppcl.org** के Vacancy/ Result सेक्शन में **दिनांक 08.10.2025** में उपलब्ध है। विज्ञापन में उल्लिखित अन्य विवरण एवं शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

सचिव, विद्युत सेवा आयोग

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. Y-E-29-2025-26/60 Dated : 27.10.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

SN	Name of work	Approx.Value
1	(Re-tender)	Rs. 1,29,15,926/-

Additional High Mast at station yards over Mysuru division.

Last date for Submission of bids :
Upto 11.00 hrs on 17.11.2025
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ General/ Mysuru
PUB/596/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-PROCUREMENT (IREPS)
TENDER NOTICE No.HE-19-2025-26
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Sl. No.	Item of Work	Approx.Value
1.	Electrical arrangement to Modernization of signaling system by provision of Electronic Interlocking system at Ballari Cantonment & Kudatini stations of Senior Section Engineer/Signal/Ballari Section.	Rs. 56,45,718.80
2.	Electrical arrangement to Modernization of signaling system by provision of Electronic Interlocking System at Kariganuru & Papinayakanahalli Stations under Senior Section Engineer/Signal/Hosapete section.	Rs. 51,08,761.80
3	Electrical arrangement to Replacement of over aged signaling installation at Caranzol, Dudhasagar and Sonalium stations (Total 03 stns).	Rs. 37,66,094.44
4	Electrical arrangements to Provision of New Running Room at Kudgi with 24 rooms/48 beds.	Rs. 37,45,092.20

Last date for Submission of bids :
Upto 11.00 hrs on 27.11.2025
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General, Hubballi
PUB/604/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221
E-Open Tender Notice No:- S/RWP/ GT/E/2025-26/01 dated: 01.11.2025. Principal Chief Materials Manager/Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the **President of India** invites **online "e-Open Tender",** through Indian Railways E-Procurement Website **www.ireps.gov.in**, for supply of following Stores item at RWP/Bela. The closing time of all tenders is 14:00 hrs. **SN: 1, Tender No.:** 02251068, **Short Description of item:** Graphite Mould blank 1097 mm dia x 575 mm height, **Quantity:** 420 Nos, **Date of Tender Closing/Opening:** 28.11.2025 at 14:00 Hrs. **1.** Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is **www.ireps.gov.in**. **2.** The prospective firms/bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with the above website for updates including **Addendum/ Corrigendum/Cancellation** with respect to the above tender. **For PCMM/RWP/Bela**
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2025-26/73

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client intend to buy the below mentioned Schedule property from **Smt.ARUNA ANANDA KUMAR,** W/o. Sri.A S Ananda Kumar. If any person/s or Institution/s, Firms, Authority/ies etc., have got any sort of objections for sale of the Schedule Property or claiming any right, title and interest of what so ever nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my Office **within (10) Ten days** from this day. Otherwise, the Sale transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claims or interests, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **Property bearing New Site No. 12, Old No.5, E-PID No.3966949091, BBMP Katha No.67-11-12, Presently Situated at KR Garden, 1st Main, Venkataswamy Reddy Layout, Bengaluru (formerly Site formed in Sy No.74/2, Koramangala Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru,)** presently within the limits of **BBMP Bengaluru, Ward No.151, Koramanagala Ward, measuring East to West-on Northern Side 33'-00" Feet, Southern Side 37'-00" Feet and North to South-33'-00", in totally measuring about 1155 Sq. Feet and together with 10 squares RCC house, red oxide flooring, ordinary wood used for doors and windows with all amenities** and bounded by:-

East By :- Jayappa Reddy's Property
West By :- 30 Feet Road
North By :- Varalakshmi's Property
South By :- Venkatappa Reddy's Property

Address for Service:
Smt. S M ASHA, BA LLB,
ADVOCATE,
#No. 8/1, 4th Cross,
Patel Balappa Layout, K M Road,
Adugodi, Bangalore- 560030.
Mob:9242084969

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE NO. 27/2025 DATE: 17.10.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites e-Tenders through IREPS only for supply of following items: **Tender closing Time: 10:30 Hrs.**

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description in Brief	Quantity	Tender Due on
1	42251152A	Cylindrical fuse (with holder) 4 Amps, 1.2 KA, Size 8X50 mm for voltage confirming to RDSO Spec	6181 Nos.	25.11.2025
2	38251079	Non-Asbestos K-type Composite Brake Blocks for Freight stock	16096 Nos.	26.11.2025
3	33251292	Flex ball cable - Long (L-4024 mm)	380 Nos.	08.12.2025
4	38251053	Load Sensing Device Side Mounted Type for Bogie Container Container flat Wagon to item 4 of RDSO Drg	1397 Nos.	09.12.2025

For Tender No. 33255025 of Notice No.25/2025, the Due Date for opening of tender changed from 29.10.2025 to 10.11.2025.
For details log on to **www.ireps.gov.in**
Principal Chief Materials Manager
Hubballi
PUB/599/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. SWR_COA_09_Stn_SBC Dated : 28.10.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Name of work	Approximate Value Rs.
Provision of COA at Kuppam, Baiyyappanahalli, Whitefield, Channapatna, Hindupur, Krishnarajapuram, Kolar, Tumakuru and Dharmapuri stations in Bengaluru Division and integrating the same with datalogger for automatic feeding of train arrival/ departure timings.	Rs. 65,23,192.06/-

Last date for Submission of bids :
Upto 15.00 hrs on 19.11.2025
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Bengaluru
PUB/597/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the **UTS** Moblie App from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

झारखण्ड सरकार,
कार्मिक, प्रशासनिक सुधार तथा राजभाषा विभाग

विज्ञापन

झारखण्ड राज्य सूचना आयोग, राँची में मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त के 1 (एक) रिक्त पद एवं सूचना आयुक्तों के कुल 6 (छः) रिक्त पदों पर नियुक्ति हेतु इच्छुक योग्य एवं अर्हताधारी व्यक्तियों से विहित प्रपत्र में आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं :–

1. **वेतन** :– 2,25,000 / – (रु. दो लाख पच्चीस हजार) प्रति माह (नियत) एवं अन्य अनुमान्य भत्ते।
   पदावधि:– यथास्थिति, मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त / राज्य सूचना आयुक्त, उस तारीख से जिसको वह अपना पद धारण करता है, तीन वर्ष की अवधि के लिए या पैंसठ वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने तक, इनमें जो भी पूर्वतर हो, पदधारण करेगा और राज्य मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त / सूचना आयुक्त पुनर्नियुक्ति के लिए पात्र नहीं होगा।
2. **अर्हता** :– आवेदक विधि, विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी, समाज सेवा, प्रबंधन, पत्रकारिता, जन सम्पर्क माध्यम या प्रशासन तथा शासन का व्यापक ज्ञान और अनुभव रखने वाले समाज में प्रख्यात व्यक्ति होंगे।
3. संसद का सदस्य या किसी राज्य या संघ राज्य क्षेत्र के विधान मंडल का सदस्य या कोई अन्य लाभ के पद पर कार्यरत या किसी राजनीतिक दल से संबद्ध या किसी कारोबार या वृत्ति से संबद्ध व्यक्ति भी आवेदक हो सकते हैं परन्तु उन्हें राज्य सूचना आयुक्त के पद पर नियुक्ति के पश्चात् उक्त लाभ का पद या व्यापार छोड़ना / बंद करना होगा।
4. अर्हता की अन्य शर्तें :–
   (क) आवेदक भारत का नागरिक हो।
   (ख) वह मानसिक रूप से विक्षिप्त, आर्थिक रूप से दिवालिया या किसी अपराध में संलिप्त नहीं हो।
5. मुख्य सूचना आयक्त / राज्य सूचना आयुक्त के पद पर नियुक्ति के लिये उपर्युक्त अर्हता एवं शर्तों को पूर्ण करने वाले इच्छुक व्यक्ति विहित प्रपत्र में अपना आवेदन कार्मिक, प्रशासनिक सुधार तथा राजभाषा विभाग, झारखण्ड, प्रोजेक्ट भवन, धुर्वा, राँची–834003 को स्पीड पोस्ट अथवा निबंधित डाक के माध्यम से दिनांक–26.11.2025 संध्या 6:00 बजे तक भेज सकते हैं।
6. लिफाफे के उपर आवेदित पद का उल्लेख आवश्यक रूप से किया जाना है।
7. राज्य / केन्द्र सरकार या अन्य किसी संस्था / संगठन के अन्तर्गत सेवारत व्यक्ति अपना आवेदन समुचित माध्यम से भेजेगें।
8. अंतिम तिथि के पश्चात् प्राप्त हुए आवेदन विचारणीय नहीं होगें।
9. पूर्व में विज्ञापन सं0–328129 दिनांक–29.06.2024 के आलोक में समर्पित आवेदन पत्र के आवेदकों को पुनः आवेदन करने की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी।
10. विज्ञापन में वर्णित प्रावधानों एवं शर्तों में किसी भी प्रकार के संशोधन करने अथवा विज्ञापन को रद्द करने का अधिकार राज्य सरकार के अधीन सुरक्षित रहेगा।

ह0 / –
(प्रवीण कुमार टोप्पो)
सरकार के सचिव

PR 365324 Personnel Administrative Reforms and Raj Bhasa(25-26).D

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

CACHE

Tech-driven project: Collector S. Saravanan inspecting doorstep distribution of enumeration forms for Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, on November 4. KARTHIKEYAN. G

A nationwide SIR: the need to check double entries in the electoral list

With the credibility of India's electoral processes at stake, the success of the nationwide Special Intensive Revision relies on leveraging technology and administrative efficiency to eliminate duplicate entries and ensure that every vote counts

Rajeev Kumar

After the completion of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise in Bihar, which faced sharp criticisms from political parties and eventually the Supreme Court, the Election Commission of India (EC) has now announced a nationwide SIR, referred to herein as SIR 2.0. This exercise has been purported to be a paperless, people-friendly, and procedurally robust undertaking.

With nearly one billion voter entries, a digital approach is not only inevitable but essential. The electoral roll is no longer a static, State-wise record; it is a dynamic national database whose precision defines the integrity of India's elections. Yet, despite judicial caution, one persistent issue remains unresolved – the double or multiple listing of a single voter.

This problem, affecting countless citizens who shift residences, is not about fraud but rather procedural lapses that erode confidence in the system. A recent case involving a voter (Prashant Kishor), whose name appears in both the Bihar and West Bengal rolls, illustrates the flaw. While the SIR in West Bengal is yet to begin, such duplication defeats the core purpose of the Bihar exercise – ensuring that no voter listed in Bihar remains enrolled elsewhere. It questions the credibility of the SIR process and undermines trust in the voter database.

Governing duplicate entries

Under the Representation of the People (RP) Act, 1950, duplicate entries technically constitute a violation, though such lapses are rarely intentional. Many law-abiding citizens, simply by shifting residence, unintentionally find themselves in breach of the Act through no fault of their own. This underscores the urgent need for a systematic, technology-driven correction mechanism within the EC's digital framework to make SIR 2.0 robust, reliable, and error-free.

The RP Act, 1950, defines the framework for maintaining integrity of electoral rolls and preventing duplication. Under Section 22(b) of the Act, if a voter changes residence within the same constituency, the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) should transpose the entry to the appropriate part of the roll. When a voter moves to another constituency, Section 23(2) governs inclusion in the new roll. It mandates that the ERO, if satisfied that the applicant is entitled to be registered, shall direct inclusion of the applicant's name in the new roll. The section further requires that if the applicant is already registered in the roll of another constituency, the concerned ERO must inform the officer of that constituency, who shall then strike off the applicant's name from that roll.

To ensure the uniqueness of every voter's registration, Sections 17 and 18 explicitly prohibit multiple registrations – no person may be listed in more than one constituency, or more than once in the same constituency. Violations constitute an offence under electoral law. Duplication often occurs when a voter's name is added at a new place of residence but not simultaneously deleted from the previous one.

In essence, the Act places the primary responsibility on the EROs to ensure that transposition, inclusion, and deletion are carried out accurately, promptly, and simultaneously. This process is crucial in preventing duplicate registration and ensuring the credibility, transparency, and integrity of the national electoral database.

The EC has consolidated the above provisions related to change of residence and correction of voter details in Form 8, used for transposition or correction of entries. A change of address request may fall under four categories: (I) No change in constituency or polling station, (II) No change in constituency but a change in polling station, (III) Change in constituency within the same State, and (IV) Change in both constituency and State. The most frequent cause of double entries arises in Type IV cases, where a voter relocates to another State. The new entry may either retain the same EPIC (Electors Photo Identity Card) number or generate a new one. For instance, Bihar voter (Prashant Kishor)'s double entry involves different EPICs, whereas the author has encountered several cases where both entries shared the same EPIC.

In such situations, accountability for failing to delete the old entry lies squarely with the concerned EROs, whose prompt coordination was essential to prevent duplication in the national electoral roll. Another source of duplication arises when a voter uses Form 6 –meant for new inclusion without declaring the existence of a registration elsewhere. A false declaration constitutes a legal violation, with accountability shared by both the voter and the officials responsible for verification.

Decoding the procedure

The backbone of India's electoral roll is ECINet – a fully digital, nationwide system managed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune. With records of nearly one billion voters, ECINet ranks among the world's largest dynamic databases. Each voter is identified by a unique EPIC number, ensuring a single verifiable entry per individual. ECINet can detect duplicates, flag inconsistencies, and facilitate corrections through authorised verification. It should also be extended to incorporate a voter's update history for complete traceability.

The EC and C-DAC deserve credit for developing robust search and verification APIs that enable efficient detection of duplicates. Ideally, any double entry should automatically trigger an alert for review and deletion upon verification. With such tools available, there is little justification for the persistence of duplicate records. Whether SIR is paper-based or paperless, the real challenge lies in database accuracy and administrative responsiveness. In a digital framework, detection and deletion should be instantaneous.

Ultimately, most cases of duplicate entries stem from the failure to delete older records, whether linked to the same or different EPIC number. This recurring problem reflects not a technological shortcoming but an administrative lapse – a failure of timely coordination and accountability within the electoral machinery.

The way forward

SIR 2.0 must not degenerate into another bureaucratic ritual. India cannot afford another exercise mired in procedural inertia. The gaps are administrative, not technological. ECINet already holds the potential and should be further enhanced through seamless integration with Aadhaar, the only credible pan-India database for independent verification.

Before SIR 2.0 begins, electoral data must be cleaned, duplicates flagged, and deleted. With proper use of technology, this can become a trust revolution – one where transparency, verification, and integrity are built into the system. The focus must shift decisively to software-led validation, digital audit trails, and real-time corrections. The ECINet should function as a reliable public utility – intuitive, glitch-free, and responsive. A real-time dispute resolution mechanism is needed to replace long queues and unanswered complaints.

With a transparent, self-correcting feedback system in place, future SIRs will be unnecessary and electoral rolls will stay perpetually accurate, updated, and verifiable. Only then can India move from 'verification by ritual' to 'verification by design'.

Rajeev Kumar is a former professor of computer science at IIT Kharagpur, IIT Kanpur, BITS Pilani, and JNU, and a former scientist at DRDO and DST.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

'There is a reason why gunpowder and treason should ne'er be forgot'

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

Name the Scotland-born monarch that the Gunpowder Plot targeted in 1605, when Catholic conspirators planned to blow up Parliament at the State Opening. He had inherited the English throne in 1603 while retaining his earlier numeral from Scotland as king.

QUESTION 2

Identify the man born in Midland who devised the Gunpowder Plot, recruited perhaps its most infamous participant, and steered the conspirators' oath at the Duck and Drake tavern. He died in a shootout at Holbeche House in Staffordshire after the plot collapsed.

QUESTION 3

Which specific chamber of Parliament did the conspirators intend to destroy by placing dozens of gunpowder barrels in the undercroft beneath it? It is where the monarch traditionally addresses peers during the State Opening ceremony.

QUESTION 4

Name the statute swiftly passed after the plot's discovery that ordered an annual church service and day of gratitude on November 5. Among other reasons, it was famous for being one of the first instances of legal memorialisation.

QUESTION 5

Which late-20th-century graphic novel and its later film adaptation popularised a particular mask as a modern symbol of resistance, thus explicitly reviving imagery from the 1605 conspiracy, as well as connected vigilante politics with November 5?

Visual question:

Name this princess whom the conspirators wished to install on the throne as a Catholic queen.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The place and year in which Shakuntala Devi set her Guinness World Record for mental calculation. **Ans: Imperial College London in 1980**

2. This books explains her mental calculation techniques. **Ans: *Figuring: The Joy of Numbers***

3. The exact product she computed for the record. **Ans: 7,686,369,774,870 × 2,465,099,745,779 = 18,947,668,177,995,426,462,773,730**

4. The constituencies from which she contested the 1980 Lok Sabha elections. **Ans: Bombay South and Medak**

5. The pioneering 1977 book she wrote on LGBTQ+ issues in India. **Ans: *The World of Homosexuals***

Visual: This actor portrayed Shakuntala Devi. **Ans: Vidya Balan**

Early Birds: C. Saravanan| Siddhartha Viswanathan| Parimal Das| Joseph Nelson| Girvar Singh Chaudhary

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

S. Upendran

"How do you pronounce a..d..o..l..e..s..c..e..n..t?"

"The 'a' in the first syllable is like the 'a' in 'bat', 'cat' and 'fat'. The 'o' in the second syllable and the 'e' in the final syllable 'cent' are pronounced like the 'a' in India."

"...like the 'a' in India? Whatever happened to your favourite 'China'?"

"Ha! Ha! Nothing! I have decided to use a different example, that's all. Anyway, to get back to the word 'adolescent', the 'e' in the third syllable is pronounced like the 'e' in words like 'less', 'bless' and 'mess'. And the stress is..."

"...let me guess. The stress is on the third syllable 'les', right?"

"That's correct!"

"So the word is pronounced adoLEScent."

"Right again! Do you know what the word means?"

"I think I do. Isn't an adolescent a young person, who is not a child, but one who has not matured into an adult?"

"That's right. Adolescence is that awkward stage between childhood and adulthood. For example, Mohan's adolescent daughter is giving him many problems."

"There were many adolescents drinking whisky at the party."

"Drinking has become a major problem among adolescents."

"Smoking has become a problem among adolescents too."

"Puppy love is quite common among adolescents."

"Puppy love? What is that?"

"It's the infatuation that an adolescent has towards a member of the opposite sex. And this member is sometimes older than the adolescent."

"Is it like having a crush on your school teacher?"

"That's right. Puppy love usually does not last long. For example, when I was young, I was mad about my English teacher. It was only puppy love."

"My cousin was crazy about our driver. Another case of puppy love. I have often heard people talking about 'cupboard love'. What kind of love is that?"

"Cupboard love is the kind of affection you show someone because of the material things he/she provides you. You might be affectionate towards someone because he/she gives you nice clothes."

"How about food?"

"It can be anything material. Here's another example. Ram believes that Sumithra doesn't really love her husband. It's only cupboard love."

"So 'cupboard love' is not real love!"

"No, it isn't. It's a mere pretence."

"Karthick truly loves his adopted parents. It is not cupboard love as many people believe."

"That reminds me, what do you plan on getting Karthick for his birthday?"

"A video. I was planning to give him 'Die Hard'."

"You must be joking! Don't you know that Karthick is a culture vulture?"

"A culture vulture? What is...?"

"...someone who is excessively interested in the arts is often referred to as a culture vulture."

Published in The Hindu on August 11, 1998.

Word of the day

Augur:

indicate, as with a sign or an omen; predict from an omen

Synonyms: bode, forecast, foreshadow, foretell, portend, predict, prefigure

Usage: *The end of the war seemed to augur well.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/augurpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈɔː.gə/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Two arrested for running fraudulent gold loan scheme; gold worth ₹1.8 crore seized

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) Economic Offences Wing arrested two persons for allegedly running a fraudulent '0% interest gold loan' scheme in the city.

According to the police, the accused, identified as Salaam and Ajith, had opened a jewellery shop in Vidyaranyapura and lured customers by offering gold loans at 0% interest. Believing the offer, several people pledged their ornaments, but received only 50% to 60 % of the actual value. They were also told not to redeem their jewellery for at least 11 months. During that period, the accused allegedly sold the pledged gold to another jewellery shop in HRBR Layout, making a profit of 40% to 50%.

The accused later shut down the shop and went absconding after misappropriating around 4 kg of gold, the police said. The CCB traced and arrested the main accused from his residence in Peenya. From the HRBR Layout shop, officers seized 1.47 kg of gold ornaments and 5 kg of silver items, together valued at about ₹1.8 crore. Preliminary probe revealed that the accused were involved in similar fraudulent activities in Mangaluru district and in Kerala. City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh advised people to be careful while dealing with gold loan firms."If any suspicious schemes are noticed, please inform the nearest police station ," he said.

E-TENDER NOTICE SAI

Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites e-tender for following works : -

1. SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-07/2025-26 for CARRYING OUT THE WORKS OF SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION TESTING, COMMISIONING (SITC) OF 1NOS OF PASSENGER ESCALATOR (10 PAX-680 KG -4 STOPS/SS FINISH) IN 100 BED ELITE MENS HOSTEL AT SAI, NSSC, BANGALORE. For more details please visit E-Tender website http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in & http://www.saisouth-bangalore.com.

The Last date of Submission of E-Tender is 17.11.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.

Sd/-, Deputy Director-Infra

SREENIDHI SOUHARDA SAHAKARI BANK NIYAMITHA
113, R. V. Road, V. V. Puram, Bengaluru-560 004, Ph: 080-25401160, 25401161, Mob: 9606018413, Email: sssbn3mrh@sreenidhibank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE - POSSESSION NOTICE
APPENDIX - IV, (See Rule 8(1)) r/w Sec. 13(4)(a)

Sri. Muniraja.N

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Central Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12), 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002,issued a demand notice dated **31/07/2025** calling upon the Borrower **Sri.Muniraja.N** ,S/o.Narayanappa, aged about 39 years, residing at : No.64, Ground Floor, 4th Cross, N R Layout, Kachanayakanahalli, Bengaluru-99. demanding to repay the amount of **Rs.13,89,669/- Rupees (Thirteen Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty Nine Only)** together with Interest and Costs thereon, being the loan amount due by him, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower has failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property owned by the borrower mortgaged to the Bank and described in Schedule herein below, together with all rights to transfer by way of Lease, Assignment or Sale for realising the above mentioned amount (Secured Asset), in exercise of the powers conferred on them under Section 13(4)(a) of the said Act read with Rule-8 of the said Rules on this **04th day of November 2025.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of **M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha** for a sum of **Rs.12,96,231/- Rupees (Twelve Lakh Ninety Six Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty One)** only as on **04/11/2025** together with interest and costs thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Northern portion of property bearing Site No.64, present E-Khatha No.150200103200802048, V.P. Property No.534/8/64, carved out in the converted land bearing Sy.No.8 (Vide conversion bearing No.BDS:ALN:SR(A)144: 2003-04 dated: 04/02/2004 & No.BDS:ALN:SR(A)78:2004-05 dated: 03/07/2004, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru) situated at Kachanayakanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, Measuring East to West : 40-0 feet and North to South : 15-0 feet total measuring 600Sq.Ft, together with 400 Sq.ft., RCC roof building with mosaic flooring on ground, first & second floors respectively and 100 Sq.ft., of RCC roof with mosaic floor house on the third floor, having all basic amenities and bounded on the :- East by : Road, West by : Site No.67, North by : Site No.65, South by : Remaining portion of same property.

Date : 04.11.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha

Govt. of Jharkhand
Jharkhand Combined Entrance Competitive Examination Board
Science & Technology Campus, Sirkha Toli, Namkum-Tupudana Road, Namkum, Ranchi – 834010, Website : https://jceceb.jharkhand.gov.in
e-mail : jceceboard@gmail.com

Advt. No. :–JCECEB/28/25- 126 ,Ranchi/Dated: 04/11/2025

Indicative information regarding Stray vacancy Round of Online Counselling for admission in All India Seats in B.D.S. & B.H.M.S. courses

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

In compliance of direction issued by Medical Counselling Committee, New Delhi on 24.10.2025 regarding the NEET-UG Schedule-2025 State Counselling, the Board will organise Stray Vacancy Round of Online Counselling for vacant All India seats in B.D.S. & B.H.M.S. Courses in Vananchal Dental College and Hospital, Garhwa; Devki Mahavir Homeopathic Medical College & Research Hospital, Garhwa under Babu Dinesh Singh University, Garhwa and Laxmi Chandravansi Homeopathic Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, Bishrampur,Palamu of Jharkhand State as per the Updated Schedule Notification which can be seen on the MCC Website.

Detailed information in this regard has been uploaded under "Important Notice" column at **Board's website http://jceceb.jharkhand.gov.in.**

Sd/-
(Megha Bhardwaj, I.A.S.)
Controller of Examination

PR 365325 Jharkhand Combined Entrance Competitive Examination Board(25-26)#D

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)

Regional Office : Mandya No. 4 F, Vivekananda Nagar, Chikka Mandya Kere, Mandya - 571401 Mob.: 8660593395
Email id : recmandyaro@canarabank.com

VEHICLES E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

In view of the default committed by the following borrowers, Bank has repossessed/ seized the Hypothecated Motor vehicles mentioned below in exercise of the power conferred under the Hypothecation Agreement executed by the borrower and the same is being auctioned on **"As is where is ", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is " basis. Date of e- auction: 21st November 2025 Time: 12.00 PM to 2.00 PM Contact point for e-auction: Baanknet.com (M/s PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd) (Contact No. 7046612345/ 6354910172/ 8291220220/ 9892219848/ 8160205051, Email: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com)** Mode of Auction: E – Auction

Sl No.	Borrower Name & Branch	Vehicle Model	Registration Year	Registration No	Reserve Price	EMD Amount
1	MURTHY G (Channapatna)	Maruti Suzuki Swift Dzire Tour BS IV	2015	KA 42 A 4221	1,44,000	14,400
2	NAGARAJU K (Kalya)	Maruti Suzuki Celerio VDI BSIV	2016	KA 41 B 9041	1,11,000	11,100

Terms & Conditions :

1. The Earnest Money Deposit stated above shall be deposited on or before 20-11-2025 by 4.00 PM. The EMD amount has to be deposited to the respective branch along with KYC documents.
2. The intending purchaser/ bidder may inspect the vehicle through Canara Bank CHANNAPATNA/KALYA Branch. It shall be the responsibility of the interested bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the vehicles before submission of the bid.
3. The online auction will be carried out through Baanknet.com (M/s PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd). Interested bidders shall contact the auction agency through the contact numbers given above.
4. Successful bidder has to remit the balance amount within 3 days from the date of Auction, otherwise the EMD amount will be forfeited and will not be refunded under any circumstances. It shall be the responsibility of the successful bidder to bear all the charges for conveyance, transfer / registration charges, etc., as applicable.
5. Bank reserves the right to postpone/ cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof.
6. For further details, please contact The Manager, Canara Bank, **CHANNAPATNA/ KALYA** Branch during office hours on any working day.

Place : Mandya
Date : 05-11-2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank, Mandya

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Calling All Photography Enthusiasts!

South Western Railway invites photography enthusiasts to capture the spirit of Railways!

PHOTOGRAPHY Competition 2025

Guidelines:
1. Participants must submit 5-10 photographs
2. RAW images along with HD images in JPEG format
3. Photos must be from the SWR jurisdiction

THEME: 1. Trains in Motion 2. Railway Architecture & Infrastructure

Submission:
1. Participants have to submit their photographs via email, and sending a printed copy (A4 Size) is encouraged but not mandatory.
2. Email: cproswr2025@gmail.com
3. Address: Chief Public Relations Officer, South Western Railway, Rail Soudha, New Zonal Office Building, 4th Floor, Gadag Road, Hubballi-580020, Dharwad District, Karnataka

Prizes
Winners will receive mementoes and certificates in recognition of their talent

For detailed information please log on to:
www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in or scan the QR code

Eligibility:
1. All Indian nationals, both general public and serving railway employees
2. Participants must be 15 years of age or above

South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

PUB/611/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
(A Section 8, not-for-profit company under the aegis of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India)

बाइरैक birac Ignite Innovate Incubate

GRAND CHALLENGES INDIA
Funding Opportunity

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Accelerating Innovation in Vaginal Formulations in Support of Women's Health

- Biology-Driven Formulation Innovation
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Grant Amount
Upto ₹2.2 crore
for term of 24 months

For Online Application, Eligibility and Call details log in to www.birac.nic.in

Supporting innovators through funding, technical handholding, scale up and deployment pathways

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA | बाइरैक birac Ignite Innovate Incubate | Grand Challenges India | GF

Last Date to Apply : **16th December, 2025 (02:00 PM IST)**

FORGOTTEN MONEY IN YOUR OLD BANK ACCOUNTS?

RBI will help you recover what's yours

Money in Inoperative Accounts (inactive for more than 2 years and up to 10 years) lying with your bank / Unclaimed Deposits (Beyond 10 years) is transferred to DEA Fund of RBI.
You or your legal heirs can claim it anytime.

3 EASY STEPS TO CLAIM YOUR MONEY

1. Visit any branch of your bank, even if it's not your regular branch
2. Submit a form with KYC documents (Aadhaar, Passport, Voter ID, or Driving Licence)
3. Receive your money with interest, if any, after verification

To find your unclaimed deposits

Search your bank's website or check RBI's UDGAM portal **(https://udgam.rbi.org.in)** covering 30 banks currently

Visit Special Camps on Unclaimed Assets being conducted in all districts across the country during October to December 2025

For more details, visit **https://rbikehtahai.rbi.org.in**
For feedback, write to **rbikehtahai@rbi.org.in**
Scan the QR code
Official WhatsApp No. 99990 41935

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RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

Disgruntlement in BJP over committee to oversee GBA polls

'BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra seems to have no time for Bengaluru,' says S.R. Vishwanath, MLA for Yelahanka and former Chairman of the BDA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Many senior city BJP MLAs and party leaders are reportedly upset over not being included in the 11-member party committee to oversee Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) polls.

Four-time MLA for Yelahanka and former Chairman of Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) S.R. Vishwanath openly expressed his disappointment over not being included in the committee. "BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra seems to have no time for Bengaluru. I have time and again told him that the road to capture power in the State runs through Bengaluru. But he seems to have no hold in the city," he said.

"I have been an MLA four times, and I have earlier been deputed by the party for elections even in Hyderabad. But I have been asked to only focus on my constituency, Yelahanka," Mr. Vishwanath told presspersons on Tuesday.

"Satish Reddy, senior MLA, and V. Somanna, Union Minister; who has a hold in two Assembly constituencies, have also not been made members of the party committee. This is a local election where the party needs to be strengthened at the grassroots level. I hope the responsibility for the election results is also taken by this committee and not pushed on to us," he added.

The committee includes Leaders of Opposition in both Houses, R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, five MPs of Bengaluru and the neighbouring Chikkaballapur, under which the Yelahanka constituency comes, former chief minister and former Bengaluru MP D.V. Sadananda Gowda and senior MLA S. Suresh Kumar among others.

Another senior BJP leader, who did not wish to be named, said that not one of the former mayors, floor leaders from the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) was included, and this did not augur well for the party.

"Barring one MP, none of the MPs have a strong organisational hold in the city. Keeping out senior MLAs and former mayors and floor leaders who will actually fight the elections on the ground only shows that a small, insecure clique wants to control the party apparatus and keep others out," he said.

Week-long campaign announced

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Opposition BJP has announced a week-long campaign against Bengaluru's "garbage disposal problem and pothole issues".

The party held a meeting of all Bengaluru MLAs and MPs on Tuesday, following which the party announced a signature campaign against the ruling Congress government.

"Due to the misgovernance of the Congress government, Bengaluru has turned into a garbage city. Potholes and piles of garbage are visible on all roads. We need to fight against the government that has betrayed the city, and it has been decided to conduct inspections for one week. Along with this, a signature collection campaign will be held in every Assembly constituency from November 6 to 15," Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok announced after the meeting.

"We will also collect people's opinion on the B Khata to A Khata conversion scheme, which we think is a scheme to extract money," he said.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521
No: KPTCL/HRDC/Civil/B76/57398/2024-25 Dated: 04.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites bids for the Service of **Tender for Day-to-Day Operation & Maintenance of Hostel & Other accommodation rooms, Laundry Services and providing Catering Services at Human Resource Development Centre, KPTCL, Hoody, Bengaluru - Call-3.** Estimated Cost : **Rs.1,55,85,000.00 per annum (including GST).**

The tender for the above work is invited through electronic mode. The detailed notification regarding above said enquiry in the E tendering process can be obtained by logging on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 06.11.2025, 4.00 pm.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Administrator,
Human Resources Development Centre, K.P.T.C.L.,
Whitefield Road, Hoody, Bengaluru-560048

Office of the Mission Director,
National Livelihood Mission Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Dept.,
No. 4, 2nd Floor, MYSUGAR Building, J.C. Road, Near Town Hall, Bengaluru-560002. email: nrlmkarnataka@gmail.com

No. KSRLPS/NFL/TF/8/2025-NONFL-KSRLPS Date: 04.11.2025

Tender Notification

The National Livelihood Mission (NLM), Karnataka invites Requests for Proposal (RFP) for Providing Event Management Services for the Belagavi Trade/Saras Fair under the National Livelihood Mission (NLM). The RFP was published through the KPP Portal on 04.11.2025. Interested and eligible bidders may participate by logging on to the website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. The last date for submission of the RFP is 19.11.2025, on or before 5:00 PM. Kindly refer to the tender document for the detailed schedule and further information.

Tender No.: KSRLPS/2025-26/SE0036.

Sd/-
Additional Mission Director
Sanjeevini-KSRLPS
Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/3586/AKAR/2025-26

GAIL (India) Limited
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Public Notice regarding Encroachment in ROU of Dabhol Bangalore Natural Gas Pipeline of GAIL (India) Limited

General public is hereby informed that GAIL (India) Limited has laid high gas pressure Dabhol Bangalore Natural gas pipeline (Cross Country pipeline and Spur Line) from Dabhol to Bangalore and is being operated for supplying/transporting natural gas enroute consumers.

The details of the pipelines passing through different districts of Karnataka State are given below:

Pipeline Section	Districts
SV-7 (Boregaon) to IP-4 (Kagdala) & SV-1G (Akkathangerahalla) to SV-2G(Yamunapura)	Belgaum
SV-11(Shelwadi) & SV-1H(Shirkol) to SV-2H (Unakal)	Dharwad
SV-12 (Hirekoppa) to SV-13 (Dambala)	Gadag
IP-5 (Huvina Hadagalli)	Vijayanagara (Hospet)
SV-14 (Pritiveshwarapura) to SV-15 (Basavanakote)	Davangere
IP-6(Guddagarangavvanhalli) to SV-18 (Kariyala)	Chitradurga
IP-7(Devarahalli) to SV-19 (Gollahalli)	Tumkur
SV-20 (Ramanahalli) to SV-21 (Madagondanahalli) & RT-Bidadi (Bidadi)	Ramnagara
SV-22 (Sullivara)	Bangalore
SV-1B (Bychuguppe, Taverekere) to SV-2K (Attibelle, Anaikal Taluk, Bengaluru-562107)	Bangalore Urban

GAIL India Limited has acquired the Right of User (RoU) in land for laying the above pipelines under the **Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (P&MP) Act, 1962**. The land is handed over back after laying of the pipeline to the landowners for farming and cultivation of normal crops. These pipelines are laid to meet existing/future gas demand of various Industries in the country as well as for supplying the cleanest fuel to domestic/commercial customers through Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and compressed form to automotive segment as CNG. These pipelines are significant driver of growth of the country and protecting the environment.

Since, these pipelines are carrying highly inflammable & hazardous Natural Gas, the construction of any building or any other structure; construction & excavation of any tank, well, reservoir, dam or plantation of tree is strictly prohibited on that land as per the P&MP Act, 1962. These activities may damage the underground pipelines leading to potential risk to the public safety at large & the environment in the vicinity of pipeline. Hence, people are advised and requested to refrain from any such activities in Pipeline ROU which endangers the safety & integrity of pipelines. Any Violation of P&MP Act is punishable offence, and appropriate legal actions would be taken against the encroachers as per the provisions of the Act/Law. The list of villages falls under this ROU is given below.

Further, for intimating about any above such activities in ROU & potential unsafe condition, please contact:

Belgaum Base: GAIL (India) Limited (A Govt of India Undertaking), SV-2G (Yamunapura), Basvana Koll Road, Near Basvana Temple, Kakati Industrial Area, Kakati, Belgaum, Karnataka-591113

Hubli Base: GAIL(India) Ltd, 183/2, Kalmeshwar Nagar behind Muller Memorial Church, Unkal, Hubli-580031

Chitradurga Base: GAIL(India) Ltd, NH-13 (Mangalore-Solapur Road, G R Halli, Chitradurga-577502

Bidadi Base: Gas Receiving Terminal, GAIL (India) Limited, Adjacent to M/s KPTCL, Bidadi Industrial area, Bidadi, Distt. Ramnagara-562109

Bengaluru City Base: GAIL(India) Ltd, SV-2B Pipeline Road, Beggar's Colony, Prem Nagar, Srigandhakavalu, Laggere, Adjacent to BWSSB Pump House, Hegganahalli, Bengaluru-560058

Toll Free No. 1800118430 & 15101.

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Department of Youth Empowerment & Sports
Assistant Director Office, Gadag Road, District Ground, Koppal. Phone : 08539 - 230121, E-mail : adysskoppal@gmail.com

No. : A.D./Y.E.S.D./KPL/M.P./E-T/CR-18/2025-26
Date : 04-11-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP Portal Only)

According to Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement act 1999 and Rules 2000 The **Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Koppal** is inviting Short Term Tender For The K.P.P.P. Portal of Outsource Employees related Service.

- : The Tender Schedule Dates are as follows : -

01) Tender Inviting Authority : Assistant Director Youth Empowerment And Sports Department Koppal, 02) Tender Purpose : Outsource Employees Related Service, 03) Tender Amount : Rs. 70.00 Lakhs, 04) EMD Amount : Rs. 1,75,000/-, 05) Tender Application Starting Date : 04-11-2025, 06) Tender Application Submission of Last Date : 11-11-2025 Evening 5.00 p.m., 07) Opening of Technical Bid Date : 12-11-2025 Evening 5.30 p.m., 08) Opening of Financial Bid : Will be Intimated.

Additional Information may be obtained during Office Hours at the above mentioned Address.

Sd/- Assistant Director,
Youth Empowerment and Sports,
Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/429/Manipal/2025-26

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, DRC Post, Bengaluru-560 029.
Tel: 080-25536625 / 25536789

IFT No: KMF/ENGG/ Supply of LPG Gas to NMP/02165/2025-26 Date: 03-11-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
[TWO COVER SYSTEM] [THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bengaluru invites Short Term tender from the eligible suppliers / manufacturers through KPP-Portal for the works mentioned in the table below. The interested and reputed Suppliers/ Manufacturer who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of contract
1	Supply of LPG Gas to Nandini Milk Production Plant Bengaluru	1 Job	3.75 Lakhs	1 year

1. Tender may be downloaded from dated: 05-11-2025 to 20-11-2025 upto 4:00 PM.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 20-11-2025 up to 4:00 PM
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 21-11-2025 up to 4:30 PM.

Hence forth changes / modification in the tender, It will be uploaded on KPP portal only.

For Karnataka Milk Federation Limited
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Clients are intending to purchase Agricultural Lands bearing 1) Sy.No. 16, New Sy.No.16/1, measuring to an extent of 3Acres 22 Guntas, situated at Hosa Dimbahalli Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, bounded on East By: Venkataramanappa Property, West By : Gopalappa Property, North By: Muniyappa Property, South By : Chowdappa Property. 2) Sy No. 30, measuring to an extent of 2 Acres, situated at Hosa Dimbahalli Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, bounded on East By: Muniyappa Property, West By : Sonnappa Property, North By: Sy No. 16, South By : Appajappa Property, from its owner Smt. SARASWATHAMMA, W/o., Muniveerappa, No. 9, Hosadimbahalli, K. Satyavara, Hosakote-562122. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our clients will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO
& H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bangalore-560-001 Mob: 9341380225

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ENTERPRISE)
No: EE/KNNL/BNT/DN/PB-4/2025-26/851 Date: 24.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP system only)

Tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore from eligible bidders /contractors, for the works detailed below (as per KTPP Act 2000), on The intending bidders can submit tenders / bids prior to the bidding only through KPPP portal of Government of Karnataka website, **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** under **Two Covers. (Technical and Financial)** The detailed/blank tender document can be viewed / downloaded from the date & time of publication of tender in KPPP portal. Stipulated time for submission of tenders/bids, for the works noted herein under, is as per KTPP Rules, Chapter-V, Rule-17, sub rule (2).

Name of work: Consultancy service for the Work of 3rd party inspection, Quality control, Quality assessment, supervision, testing & submitting reports for the work of Providing irrigation facility for draught affected areas in Sedam assembly constituency, Kalaburagi District by lifting water from Kagina river Yeddalli and Ternalli lift irrigation scheme under BNT Project **(INDENT NO SE0130)**

The calendar of events will be as per the schedule in the e-procurement portal. a) Indent No : **SE0130**, b) Price of bidding document: As per KPPP, c) Date of commencement of Sale of bidding document : **dt: 04.11.2025 AT 10.30 AM,** d) Last date and time for Submission of bids : **dt: 11.11.2025 AT 5.30 PM,** e) Time and date of Opening of Technical Bid : **dt: 12.11.2025 AT 5.30 PM**

Corrigendum, addendum, etc to the tendered work and any change in, Amount Put to Tender (APT), Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and conditions, etc for the above works, will be notified in KPPP platform and the details of the same can be had from this office.

Further any information / queries / clarifications can be had from the under signed through email: **eeknnlhebbal@gmail.com** & from helpline Nos of e-portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** during office hours, before date & time allowed / notified.

Note: Any change / extensions etc., in the tender schedule (calendar of events) will not be published / advertised through news papers, changes will be updated on/in e-procurement portal only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL.,
BNT Project Divn, No.4 Hebbal.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/671/KSMC&A/2025-26

Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri
(Government of Karnataka - Reg. Autonous Institute)
Phone : 08272-298220 Website : www.kimskodagu.karnataka.gov.in

Ref: No. ME/2025-26/IND : Date: 30-10-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Under signed invites e-tender notification in two Bid system from eligible Manufactures / Suppliers / Authorized Dealers through e-procurement portal GOK, **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** with EMD for the supply of Electrical and Electronics items to KOIMS, Madikeri, for more information contact e-procurement portal or office of the undersigned.

e-mail: directormckodagu@gmail.com

Sd/- Dean & Director,
KoIMS, Madikeri

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that, our client is proposing to acquire rights in the Schedule Property (morefully described under the Schedule – A), from its owner Mr N K Varma.

Any person having any subsisting claim, right, title or interest, in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner including by way of easement, beneficial interest or pre-emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any suit or award passed by any Court or Authority or arbitrator, *lis-pendens*, power of attorney, bequest, FSI, development rights, partnership, family arrangement or settlement or otherwise encumbrance howsoever ("**Claim**"), are hereby requested to respond with documentary proof to the undersigned within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be presumed that no such Claim exists and if it existed, the claimant has relinquished such Claim and/or waived their right to exercise such Claim.

SCHEDULE – A
SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item Property 1: All that piece and parcel of agricultural land measuring 3 acres 26 guntas and 9 guntas kharabh land, comprised in Survey No 96, situated in Soluru Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:

East By : Land in Survey No 95
West By : Land in Survey No 103/3
North By : Land in Survey No 97
South By : Land in Survey No 94

Item Property 2: All that piece and parcel of agricultural land measuring 2 acre 13 guntas and 14 guntas kharabh land, comprised in Survey No 97 situated in Soluru Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:

East By : Land in Survey No 80
West By : Land in Survey No 98
North By : Road and Land in Survey No 71
South By : Land in Survey No 96

Item Property 3: All that piece and parcel of agricultural land measuring 2 acres 15 guntas and 7 guntas kharabh land, comprised in new Survey No 94/1 (old Survey No 94) situated in Soluru Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:

East By : Land in Survey No 95
West By : Land in Survey No 103
North By : Road and Land in Survey No 96
South By : Land in Survey No 94/2

Dated this 5 November 2025

Sd/-
Sudheer Madamaiah
Advocate
Khaitan & Co,
Embassy Quest, 3rd Floor, 45/1,
Magrath Road Bengaluru-560025
T: +91 80 43397000

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ZUHA Mariyam, r/at No.16, Kenchappa Garden, Chamundi Nagar Main Road, R.T.Nagar Post, Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name as Zuha Maryam vide affidavit dtd 04.11.2025 sworn before Notary C.Santhosh, Bluru

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)
An initiative of the Govt. of Karnataka
Career Opportunity
Call for Applicants

1. **Admin and Operations Executive-** 1 to 5 years of experience; **Qualification:** B.Com / MBA, Bengaluru
2. **Project Manager- Beyond Bengaluru–** 10+ years of experience; **Qualification:** Bachelor's Degree in any discipline / Postgraduate Degree, Bengaluru
3. **Associate- Karnataka Acceleration Network –** 1 to 4 years of experience; **Qualification:** Bachelor's Degree in any discipline / Postgraduate Degree, Bengaluru
4. **Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff–** 3+ years of experience; **Qualification:** Bachelor's Degree, Bengaluru

The detailed Job Description and application process are available at **www.karnatakadigital.in/careers**

The deadline for applications is 12th November 2025.

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE
Ida Scudder Road, Vellore-4, TN.
WANTED
Sr. Manager, Manager, Officer for Finance & Accounts department.

SENIOR MANAGER (F&A)
Qualification: ACA/ACMA with over 15 years of post-qualification in Finance and Accounts of large organization and at least 5 years at senior level. **Age :** 55 years below

MANAGER (F&A)
Qualification: ACA/ACMA with over 12 years of post-qualification in Finance and Accounts of large organization at least 5 years at senior level. **Age :** 45 years below

OFFICER (F&A)
Qualification: ACA/ACMA **Age :** 45 years below

Salary will be as per Institutional rules.
Apply **on or before 15-11-2025**
Applications should be made online in the CMC Website (https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx).
Application through other Job portal will not be considered and hard copies will not be accepted. For clarifications, emails may be sent to **gso2@cmcvcellore.ac.in.**
No direct phone calls / personal appointments will be entertained. Shortlisted candidates alone will be informed of the Interview / Selection process.

An Autonomous Institute of Government of Karnataka
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE MEDICAL COLLEGE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, BENGALURU
Telephone: +91-8431186388, E-mail: sabvmcri@gmail.com

No: SABVMCRI/E-TENDER/BATTERY/11/2025-26 Dated: 03-11-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

e-Tenders is invited for interested eligible firms in accordance with KTPP Act for **Supply and Installation of Essential Items for Affiliated Hospitals of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College and Research Institute, Bengaluru.**

1) Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document is **from 30-10-2025. 2)** Last Date and Time for Tender Queries: **04-11-2025 upto 5.30 PM. 3)** Last Date and Time for Uploading of e-Tender in e-Procurement Portal: **08-11-2025 upto 5.30 PM. 4)** Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bids: **10-11-2025 at 10.30 AM.**

For further details search in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and if any further details are required in this regard. Please contact the Director Cum Dean / Assistant Administrator of this institute during working days.

Sd/- Director Cum Dean
SABVMCRI, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3577/Adverto/2025-26

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY,
(UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)
3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Pursuant to attachment of Immovable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court, the Special Officer & Competent Authority is issuing notice for e-auction of the immovable property through e-auction on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis'.

The intending bidders will be required to furnish Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (as mentioned against each auction in the e-portal provided by the Service Provider/Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only).

Short description of the Immovable Property (SPLOCA/AUC(2)/CR/06/2025-26)

Properties are free of all encumbrances and are in the name of Competent Authority appointed by Government and confirmed by the Special Court under KPIDFE Act, 2004. and Hon'ble High Court Of Karnataka has cleared the title (Khata stands in the name of Competent Authority and Auctioning Authority)

Sl. No.	DETAILS OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 692/2019)	Minimum Bid Price (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)
1.	No. 2/3, New PID No.078-W0202-8 (Old PID No.91-76-2/3), Spencer Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-05, measuring East to West 52.6 ft and North to South 38 ft aggregating 1998.8 Sq.ft Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/MPsttJnuANmSDoKo8 Latitude and Longitude: 12°59'50.0"N 77°36'29.9"E			
(a)	Ground Floor, Flat No.GF-01, UDS-399.67, SBA- 1602 Sq.ft	1,61,50,000/-	16,15,000/-	1,62,000/-
(b)	1st Floor, Flat No. FF-01, UDS-399.76, SBA-1602.50 Sq.ft	1,63,40,000/-	16,34,000/-	1,64,000/-
(c)	2nd Floor, Flat No. SF-01, UDS-399.76 , SBA-1602.50 Sq.ft	1,65,30,000/-	16,53,000/-	1,66,000/-
(d)	3rd Floor, Flat No.TF-01, UDS-399.76 , SBA-1602.50 Sq.ft	1,62,45,000/-	16,25,000/-	1,63,000/-
(e)	4th Floor, Flat No.FRF-01, UDS-399.76 , SBA-1602.50 Sq.ft	1,62,45,000/-	16,25,000/-	1,63,000/-

Date of Pre-bid meeting & time and Place	Date of Inspection & time	Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission	Date & Time of E Auction
19th November 2025, 3 pm to 4 pm Place: O/o SPLOCA, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Tower, Bengaluru-01	**25th November 2025 11:00am to 05:00pm**	**27th November 2025 Before 5pm**	**28th November 2025 11 am to 1 pm**

For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Helpdesk No: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Assistant Commissioner, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Towers, Dr.Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: splocaeauction@gmail.com or Contact Mob. No 6364403715.

Sd/-
Special Officer & Competent Authority
(Under KPIDFE –IMA & Other Scam) Bengaluru.

Date: 29-10-2025
Place: Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/3571/Zen/2025-26

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S. Bhagwant Singh Mann
Chief Minister, Punjab

1092/13/2025-26/4735

Department of Information and Public Relations, Punjab

Viksit Bharat scheme to generate 3.5 cr. jobs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY) has earmarked a budget of ₹99,446 crore with an ambitious target of generating over 3.5 crore new jobs across the country.

In this regard, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office, Bengaluru, conducted a training programme for its staff to enhance outreach efforts towards establishments for coverage under the scheme, which is aimed at promoting employment generation and formalisation of the workforce.

The PMVBRY, launched under the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047, provides incentives both to employees and employers to encourage formal job creation.

Under the scheme, first-time employees will receive an incentive equivalent to one month's wage (up to ₹15,000), paid in two instalments after six and twelve months, provided they are registered under EPFOa monthly gross salary up to ₹1 lakh, said an official release.

Centre asked to frame separate guidelines for different types of eateries

Karnataka High Court directs the State govt. to bring health and safety standard regulations for all street vendors, food trucks and create a mechanism for vigil over its strict implementation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Stating that certain provisions of the food safety regulations are 'impracticable' for implementation 'in the absence of an effective and meaningful bifurcation between restaurants, street vendors, food trucks and hawkers,' the High Court of Karnataka has directed the Central government to frame separate guidelines for large, medium and small restaurants, etc., as the present regulations are made applicable to food industry only based on their annual business turnover.

The court has directed the Karnataka government to bring health and safety standard regulations for all street vendors, food trucks and create a mechanism for vigil over its strict implementation.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna issued the directions while disposing of a petition filed, way back in 2012, by Karnataka Pradesh Hotel and Restaurants Association, Bruhat Bengaluru Hotels Association. The associations had challenged certain provisions of the Food Safety and Standards (FS&S) (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011; FS&S (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations; FS&S (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations and the penalties prescribed under the FS&S Act.

Though court found no arbitrariness or illegalities either in the Act or the regulations as the legal validity of these laws were already upheld by various other high courts and the apex court after filing of this petition in 2012, the court found that the regulations "does create certain impracticability" for implementation, as the food industry is bifurcated only based on their annual business turnover. "... the bifurcation must ensue, so that the standards of food and health are maintained at every rung of consumption; consumption be it in a large restaurant, small restaurant, food trucks or even vending in the street," the court said.

The new law or guideline specifically and separately for restaurant businesses, bifurcating them into small, medium, and large businesses, should clearly indicate the hygiene, cooking processes, procurement of raw material, etc., to be in conformity with traditional Indian standards of cooking and cooking processes, the court said.

"It is a cultural truth that the street food in India is a cherished norm. Therefore, from humble roadside stalls, to the modern food trucks or uber restaurants, the spirit of Indian cuisine thrives. However, the licensing and registration of food businesses draw their lines of demarcation upon annual turnover, distinguishing the petty business from the large restaurant, merely one economic scales," the court observed.

The court further said, "even if the food trucks are to be regulated, as long as there is human consumption of food. The food that is consumed should be healthy. Maintenance of standards of food, for health reasons, for every citizen is the duty of the State by bringing in a regulatory regime that is far from obfuscation".

HC reserves verdict on State govt.'s appeal on GO restricting use of public places

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday reserved its verdict on an appeal filed by the State government challenging the October 28 interim order passed by a single judge staying October 28 Government Order (GO) of banning use of public places, like parks, playgrounds, etc by private groups and individuals for assembly of 10 or more persons without prior permission from the authorities.

State Advocate-General Shashi Kiran Shetty described the restriction imposed in the GO as "an enabling provision and it is positive allowing the private organisations and individuals to use the pubic places" by taking prior permission by submitting an application only three days prior to their gathering.

Hubballi-Dharwad-based organisations, Punashchetana Seva Samsthe and We Care Foundation, in their petition before the single judge, had said that they are using parks for their teaching activities, **The October 28 GO banned use of public places by private groups and individuals without prior permission from the authorities** and such activities cannot be permitted without prior permission, the A-G contended before the Bench comprising Justice S.G. Pandit and Justice Geetha K.B. Questioning how can a large number of people from several organisations could be allowed to use the parks for their activities, the A-G said that the GO was issued taking into consideration several directions issued by the court on use of public places like, parks, playgrounds and roads.

When the Bench asked whether the Government has filed application before single judge either for vacating of the stay order or clarification by filling objection to the petition, the A-G said that the Government has decided to file the appeal. When the Bench asked why cannot the Government go before the single judge for vacating of stay order, the A-G said that the Government wants to "go only upward and not downward".

'Criminalisation'

While appearing for the petitioner-organisations, Senior Advocate Ashok Haranahalli pointed out that the result of the GO is that if people wants to play cricket in any public playground they have to take permission everyday.

The GO is nothing but "criminalisation" of the act of using every public places sans permission even for gathering of ten or more persons for peaceful civic, social, cultural or sports activities as the GO terms it as 'unlawful assembly' to be dealt with Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita when the Constitution has given right to assemble peacefully.

The kind of restriction imposed in GO for peaceful use of public places cannot be imposed through an executive order of the Government, and if the Government is keen on imposing such restrictions they it may be only by enacting a legislation, Mr. Haranahalli argued.

Ex- Minister H.Y. Meti passes away

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

H.Y. Meti

Hullappa Yamanappa Meti, 79, Congress MLA for Bagalkot and former Minister died in a private hospital in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

According to Apollo Hospitals, Jayanagar, where Mr. Meti was undergoing treatment for multiple health issues, he had interstitial lung disease (idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis), along with cardiac and pulmonary complications and diabetes.

"Though his lung condition was chronic and progressive, he remained stable for a long period. In recent weeks, his condition worsened due to an acute exacerbation of ILD. He was first treated in Kalaburagi and later shifted to the Jayanagar facility," the hospital said.

Leaders including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Minister Satish Jarkiholi and MP Basavaraj Bommai expressed their condolences.

The five-term MLA was among the few leaders in the State who went on to become a State minister from a Gram Panchayat leader. He was a member of the 11th Lok Sabha in 1996.

He had served as the chairman of Bilkerur Gram Panchayat, a member of agencies like the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) and the primary land development bank in Bagalkot taluk.

He was considered one of the influential Kuruba community leaders from Northern Karnataka. A close follower of former Chief Minister Ramakrishna Hegde, he spent several decades in the Janata Parivar parties, before joining the Congress. He served as a State Minister twice, once handling the forest portfolio in 1994 and later excise in 2016.

His family hailed from Thimmapur in Bagalkot district. Party sources say the leader influenced the decision of CM Siddaramaiah to fight the Assembly polls from Badami in Bagalkot district in 2013.

He served as an Excise Minister for a few months in 2016, before resigning over a controversial video clip. He faced public pressure to resign after a sleaze CD purportedly featuring him was broadcast in some TV channels. Some time later, some TV channels ran an interview with a masked woman who claimed that she was the victim of kidnapping and rape by the former Minister. She identified herself as a contractual employee of a government department. Later, she filed a complaint of kidnapping and rape with the Director General of Police. In the complaint, the victim alleged that she was kidnapped by Meti's supporters and forced to retract her earlier allegations against him.

The CID that investigated the case failed to prove the charges. They said they could not locate the original video CD as it was missing.

However, investigators said that the available video clips had been edited multiple times before being aired. Meti described it as a political conspiracy to malign him.

He denied allegations of seeking sexual favours for the transfer of employees or regularising contractual services.

Guidelines issued for use of fines collected

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Health Department has issued revised guidelines for the proper utilisation of fines collected under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003, in Karnataka.

Under the National Tobacco Control Programme, authorised officers are empowered to levy spot fines on violators of COTPA. The fines collected are to be deposited in a joint account operated by the Deputy Commissioner and the District Health and Family Welfare Officer.

According to the latest circular issued on Tuesday, the fine amount should be used exclusively for tobacco control activities at the district level.

District Tobacco Control Cells have been directed to prepare annual action plans outlining the use of the funds. At least 70% of the fine amount should be used for strengthening tobacco de-addiction services.

Sugarcane price: Growers, factory managements fail to see eye to eye

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Talks between farmers and the management of sugar factories hit a deadlock after they failed to reach an agreement over the price to be fixed for procuring sugarcane this season.

Mohammed Roshan, Belagavi Deputy Commissioner, convened a meeting on Tuesday of farmers, factory owners, and other department officials concerned in his office to discuss the farmers' demand for ₹3,500 per tonne, apart from transport and cutting charges. Sugar Commissioner M.R. Ravi Kumar, SP Bheemashankar S. Guled and others were present.

While the farmers agreed to scale down their demand to ₹3,300 per tonne, the factory managements said they were unable to pay more than ₹3,200.

Factory managers, however, said that they were facing several challenges like fluctuating prices of sugar, regulated market for molasses, and uncertain prices for ethanol, in the backdrop of international developments. The meeting went on till evening but the parties could not arrive at an agreement. Mr. Roshan urged farmers and the management to come to a mutually agreeable solution as soon as possible.

Earlier, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra visited the protest site at Gurlapur where farmers have been camping for five days now.

Fact-finding report asks State to revoke environmental clearance

HONNAVAR PORT PROJECT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A fact-finding report on the Honnavar Port Project, which was released on Tuesday, has called on the State government to immediately revoke the environmental clearance granted to the Honnavar Port Project.

The report prepared by the All Indian Central Council of Trade Union (AICCTU), Fridays-ForFuture-Karnataka (FFF-K), and People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) is a follow up to a fact-finding conducted in 2024.

In its recommendation to the government, it has demanded that an independent and participatory environmental and social impact assessment be done that fully considers the concerns of the local community.

Further, it said that all ongoing construction and road work connected to the project must be halted until legal and procedural requirements are complied with. "The government must conduct a formal survey of residential and occupational land in Tonka 1 and Tonka 2 fishing villages and take steps to recognise and formalise land and housing rights of residents who have lived there for decades," it said.

It has recommended to unconditionally withdraw all criminal cases filed against residents and protestors in relation to demonstrations held against road and port.

It has also recommended to the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to strengthen regulatory oversight of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority and State Coastal Zone Management Authority and develop mechanisms for review and accountability in cases where approvals are granted despite statutory violations.

It added that the construction of breakwaters will lead to the gradual erosion of the coast itself. "The Sharavati estuary is home to a variety of fish, including prized estuarine species, and the beach serves as a nesting ground for the Olive Ridley Turtle, an endangered and protected species under the Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972," it said.

The report was released by environmental activist Medha Patkar, who also met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and urged him to revoke the project. "The first and foremost question is whether this port project is being pushed forward in compliance with all kinds of laws whether they are land related laws or environmental-related laws the answer is no," she said.

"The project has been planned since 2010, and it is said to have received various kinds of clearances, which include environmental clearance, clearance under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification. All these clearances are based on facts but on fake commitments and assessments," she added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Clients are intending to purchase Agricultural Land bearing Sy.No. 16/2, measuring to an extent of 1Acre 17.08 Guntas, situated at Hosa Dimbahalli Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, bounded on East By: Sy No. 17 and Sy No. 31, West By : Sy No. 15, North By: Sy No. 17, South By : Sy No. 30, from its owner Smt. KRISHNAMMA, W/o., Gopalappa, Residing at Hosadimbahalli, Bangalore Rural, Hosakote-562122. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our clients will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO
& H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bangalore-560-001 Mob:9341380225

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my clients intend to buy the below mentioned Schedule property from **Sri. D.V. Arun Kumar S/o Sri. D.B. Venkataswamy and Sri. Narayanawamy D.R. S/o Sri.D.V.Ramaiah.** If any person/s or Institution/s, Firms, Authority/ies etc., have got any sort of objections for sale of the Schedule Property or claiming any right, title and interest of what so ever nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my Office **within (10) TEN days** from this day. Otherwise, the Sale transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claims or interests, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the (Old Sy.No.146, Measuring about 4 Acres 03 Guntas, (excluding 0-7 Guntas of Kharab)), New Sy No.146/1, Measuring about 2 Acres 20 Guntas (excluding 04 Guntas of Kharab), New Sy. No. 146/2, Measuring 21 Guntas, New Sy. No. 146/3, Measuring 21 Guntas, and New Sy. No.146/4, Measuring 21 Guntas, (excluding 03 Guntas of Kharab) Situated at **Madanahatti Village, Kasaba Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District** and bounded by:-

East By :- Property belongs to Sri. Chikka Sidappa,
West By :- Property Belongs to Sri.Vijay Kumar
North By :- Bricks Factory
South By :- Property Belongs to Sri. Ramappa

Address for Service:
BUILD LEGAL
Mr. B.T.PRASANNA KUMAR, B.Sc. L.L.B.,
Mrs. S.M. ASHA, B.A.L.L.B.,
ADVOCATES,
No.25, First Floor, Public Utility Building, M.G.Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Mob : 9243118157, 9242084969

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, MR. PRAJWAL. T. S, Aged about 28 years, S/o Mr. T.R.Swamy is the absolute owner of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office as shown below within **10 days** from the date of publication hereof, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **Residential Site bearing No. 376/A, BBMP E-Aasthi PID No. 4344089045,** BBMP Khata No. 1227/376/A, measuring East to West 18.30 Meters (60 feet) and North to South 12.20 Meters (40 feet), totally measuring 223.16 Sq.Meters (2400 Sq.ft), situated at Sector III, Hosur-Sarjapura Road (HSR) Layout, Bangalore together with all rights, appurtenance whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the: -

East by: Site Nos. 356/A and 355/A;
West by: Road;
North by: Site No. 377/A;
South by: Site No. 375/A;

Dated this 05th day of November 2025 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS
Advocates & Consultants
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector-2, H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914,
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

CIAL DUTYFREE AND RETAIL SERVICES LTD.

CDRSL/CARRY BAGS/ADMN 01 **TENDER NOTICE** Date: 05.11.2025

CIAL Dutyfree and Retail Services Limited invite sealed tenders from interested agencies for the supply of Cloth Carry Bags to CIAL Dutyfree and Retail Services Ltd. for a period of 2 years.

Nature of Work	EMD	Period of Issue of Tender	Cost of Tender Documents
Supply of various sizes of Cloth Carry Bags to Cochin Duty Free shops at Cochin International Airport.	Rs.1,00,000/- (mode of payment in RTGS/ Demand Draft) drawn in favour of CIAL Dutyfree and Retail Services Ltd. (CDRSL)	05 November 2025 to 25 November 2025 till 17:00 hrs	Rs. 2000/- + GST

Interested parties may collect the tender documents from the office of CIAL Dutyfree and Retail Services (CDRSL), Nedumbassery between 05 November 2025 and 25 November 2025. For more details please visit www.cochindutyfree.com or www.cial.aero

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in Mobile No. 96461-10914

E-Tender Enq. No. **679/P-1/EMP-13153 dtd. 30.10.2025**

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-1) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2025_POWER_152927_1 for Hiring of Consultant for engaging an Agency to carry out Residual Life Assessment (RLA) study of any one unit (3 or 4) AND CHP of GGSSTP, Ropar. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 30.10.25 from 05.00 PM onwards.

Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

RTP-116/25 **1079/12/2025-26/4707**

CHENNAI METRO ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED (CMAML)
METROS, NANDANAM
CHENNAI – 600 035, INDIA, PH: 044-24378000

E-Tender Notice

CMAML invites short open tenders through CPP e-procurement Portal **(https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app)** from eligible Consultants who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the bid documents under Single Stage Two Envelope (Technical & Financial) system for the assignment as detailed below:

1) CMAML/CP/TDR-10-CS-DDC/2025: "Detailed Design of Integrated Bus Terminal cum Commercial / Office Development at Vadapalani Bus Depot."

(i) Bid document available from: 07 November 2025

(ii) Deadline for bid submission: 25 November 2025

For further details, please visit: **https://chennaimetrorail.org/**

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer / CMAML
For Chairman / CMAML

DIPR/5979/Tender/2025

NHRC notice to Karnataka for extorting bribe from grieving man

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Tuesday issued a notice to the Karnataka government in a case where a 64-year-old father, mourning for his daughter's death, was made to pay bribes at every step, including an ambulance driver, police, crematorium staff and civic officials in Bengaluru.

The commission issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Karnataka, calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks.

The case pertains to the demise of woman working in the city who had suffered a brain haemorrhage on September 18.

It was reported that when the father called an ambulance after his daughter's death, the ambulance driver apparently over-charged for the services. When he reported his daughter's death to the police, they not only displayed a lack of empathy, but gave copies of the FIR and post-mortem report only after a bribe was paid.

The father had to again bribe the crematorium staff after they delayed final rites. There was also a considerable delay in issuing a death certificate from Mahadevapura Municipal authorities. The certificate was issued only after the father paid a bribe, the NHRC communique said.

SIR exercise infringes voters' right to political expression, DMK tells SC

In its petition, the party says the SIR is replete with 'arbitrariness, unreasonableness, and illegalities'; it undermines fair elections, and may lead to disenfranchisement, the party adds; its timeline coincides with the monsoon, festival holidays

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), Tamil Nadu's ruling party, in a maiden challenge against the expansion of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls to 12 States, said the exercise is replete with "arbitrariness, unreasonableness and illegalities" and infringes voters' right to political expression.

In a point-by-point counter to the SIR exercise itself and, in particular, the manner in which it was conducted in Bihar, the DMK, through its organising secretary R.S. Bharathi, represented by senior advocates N.R. Elango and Amit Anand Tiwari, said the second phase was bound to cause "confusion, uncertainty and disenfranchisement of a significant number of voters".

"Universal adult suffrage, constitutionally guaranteed under Article 326, as the foundational basis of free and fair elections is integral to the democratic framework of the Republic. Wrongful exclusion from electoral rolls strikes at the very core of this guarantee and directly infringes Article 19(1)(a), which protects the expression of political opinion of which the freedom of voting is an essential extension," the DMK highlighted.

Referring to the October 27 order of the Election Commission (EC) on the second phase, the party said Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are required to conduct house-to-house enumeration and provide electors with enumeration forms and later collect them. "Neither the Representation of People Act [ROPA] nor the Registration of Electors Rules mention any such forms," the DMK pointed out.

'Arbitrary' exclusion

In these enumeration forms, electors must fill in relevant details and have been directed not to provide any documents.

The DMK said electors have to provide their eligibility by providing any of the 13 specified documents to prove citizenship. However, the commonly available documents such as ration cards, PAN Cards, and EPIC have been excluded as documents.

"If the voter does not provide any document, they will be required to fill a Form 6 application during the claims and objections period, that is, after the publication of the draft rolls. This means that the names of such voters will automatically be deleted from the draft rolls thus allowing the mass exclusion of voters from the electoral rolls in a completely subjective or arbitrary manner," the party contended.

The party pointed out that the BLOs would have to identify a probable cause – absent, shifted, death or duplication – for electors who do not return their enumeration form.

"BLOs will make recommendations to Electoral Roll Officers [EROs] for inclusion or non-inclusion of names of persons who have filled the enumeration forms from the draft electoral rolls. There are no guidelines, principles or policy on the basis of which the recommendations are to be provided, therefore, any assessment will be completely subjective," the DMK flagged.

The party argued there was no clarity on whether the non-inclusion could be appealed or if an objection could be filed against the exclusion.

The DMK referred to clause 5(a) of the October 27 order which said that after the publication of the draft rolls, the EROs would scrutinise the eligibility of voters where they would decide whether an elector's name was to be included or not after issuing notice to voters concerned and giving them a hearing. "It is relevant to note that there is no prescribed method/manner for issuance of notice or the manner in which the hearing is to be conducted" the party noted.

The petition argued that the statutory right to appeal has been rendered nugatory in practice in the SIR order.

The period for filing claims and objections is from December 9 to January 8, 2026.

Overlapping dates

"This overlaps with the notice phase i.e., December 9, 2025 to January 31, 2026, during which the enumeration forms and disposal of claims and objections have to be done concurrently by the EROs. The final roll is to be published on February 7, 2026. Therefore, effectively, people have been denied the statutory right of appeal...," the petition submitted.

It said there was no statutory timeline given for the disposal of appeals under Section 24(a) or (b) of the ROPA. The deadline for publication of the final roll, that is, February 7, 2026 would likely be over before appeals are duly adjudicated.

"Even if a person complies with the prescribed timelines, late rejection orders and the absence of a guaranteed disposal window before final roll publication mean that wrongfully excluded electors may remain excluded for the purpose of the impending polls and the publication of the revised SIR rolls," the petition said.

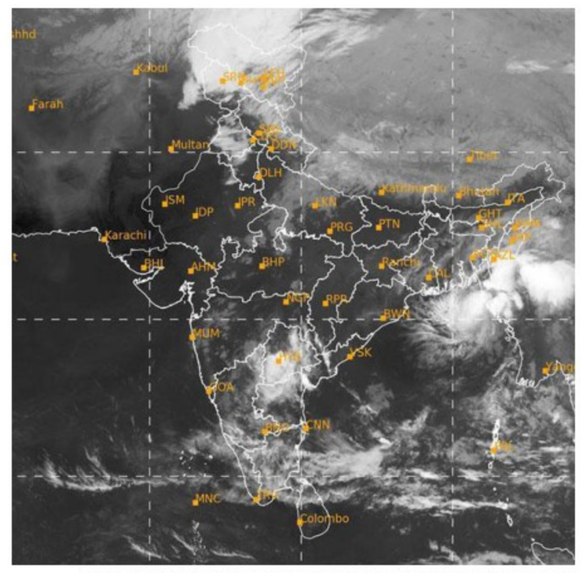
The party said the SIR timeline for Tamil Nadu coincides with a major monsoon season, followed by Christmas and Pongal.

> Universal adult suffrage, constitutionally guaranteed under Article 326, as the foundational basis of free and fair elections is integral to the democratic framework of the Republic. Wrongful exclusion from electoral rolls strikes at the very core of this guarantee...

> If the voter does not provide any document, they will be required to fill a Form 6 application... after the publication of the draft rolls. This means that the names of such voters will automatically be deleted from the draft rolls thus allowing the mass exclusion of voters...
> **DMK'S ARGUMENT IN THE SUPREME COURT**

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.15 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.5	23.2	Kozhikode	—	33.4	25.6
Ahmedabad	3	31.8	23.3	Kurnool	12	28.9	23.8
Aizawl	—	29.9	21.0	Lucknow	—	31.3	16.6
Allahabad	—	32.2	15.2	Madurai	—	37.0	24.2
Bengaluru	—	27.2	19.6	Mangaluru	—	28.7	22.9
Bhopal	—	30.6	21.0	Mumbai	—	31.1	24.6
Bhubaneswar	—	31.7	20.8	Mysuru	—	30.0	17.0
Chandigarh	—	30.2	14.4	New Delhi	—	32.1	16.5
Chennai	6.8	34.0	27.7	Patna	—	30.1	20.6
Coimbatore	—	33.0	22.2	Port Blair	3	30.5	25.5
Dehradun	—	28.9	15.0	Puducherry	—	32.3	26.9
Gangtok	—	22.1	13.0	Pune	—	32.4	21.8
Goa	—	31.5	23.5	Raipur	—	31.4	21.4
Guwahati	—	31.1	21.6	Ranchi	—	26.6	15.0
Hubballi	—	29.0	18.0	Shillong	—	25.4	14.0
Hyderabad	1.7	29.0	23.2	Shimla	—	23.0	10.6
Imphal	1.2	26.5	21.8	Srinagar	—	21.9	2.4
Jaipur	0.6	28.0	19.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.6	24.3
Kochi	—	30.0	24.8	Tiruchi	—	34.7	24.4
Kohima	—	25.6	17.6	Vijayawada	—	33.6	25.4
Kolkata	—	30.2	21.8	Visakhapatnam	1	32.0	26.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.23	.31	.32	...108	...100	
Bengaluru	..—	.25	116	60	95	
Chennai	...5	.55	..—	71	...117	
Delhi	.33	105	.89	...338	...366	
Hyderabad	.47	.14	.20	94	...105	
Kolkata	...6	.16	.50	...295	...194	
Lucknow	...8	.61	.75	...136	...153	
Mumbai	.13	.23	.33	54	...104	
Pune	..—	.33	.34	...124	...115	
Visakhapatnam	...8	.38	.14	87	98	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 406 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 12

Air Quality Code: Poor, Moderate, Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Government of Karnataka
Senior Geologist, Dept. of Mines and Geology, RTO Office Near, Sathyamangala, Hassan.573201
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ ID – sghassan10@gmail.com, sghsn-dmg-ka@nic.in ದೂ: 08172 200859

"PAPER NOTIFICATION"

E-tender has been invited for disposal of the notified sand blocks through e-procurement portal from 03/11/2025 to 02/12/2025 for the 26 sand blocks in Belur, Sakleshpur and Alur taluks of Hassan district notified by District Sand Committee. The pre-bid meeting has been scheduled on 17/11/2025 at 11:00 AM at the office of the Senior Geologist, Department of Mines and Geology. The bid document, details of sand blocks, reservation and other complete details can be obtained from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ and by visiting the office during office hours.

Sd/- Senior Geologist and Member Secretary Dist. Sand Monitoring Committee, Hassan Dist. Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/725/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION &GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DEPARTMENT
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIVISION, BELAGAVI.
PH NO.0831-2463850 / FAX NO.0831-2423008

No.EE /MI&GWDDD/BGM/TND/AE/2025-26/3659 Date:03-11-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (KW-1,2,3&4)

As per KTTP Act-2000 and recent Amendments the Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Department Division Belagavi has invited the Item rate tender through KPPP (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in). Total 15 Nos. of Athani/Gokak Sub Divisions. Estimate Amount Highest Rs.307.00 Lakhs & Lowest Rs.3.65 Lakh. 1. For KW-4 work: Date of Pre-tender meeting:10-11-2025 at 11.00 AM, 2.Tender Receipt Last Date:11-11-2025 Evening 4.00 PM, 3. Tender Opening Date:12-11-2025 Evening 4.30 PM (if possible), 4. For Tender Details office address: Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Department Division Belagavi & www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/-Executive Engineer, M.I & GWDD Division, Belagavi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1259/KSMCA/2025-26

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY,
(UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)
3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Pursuant to attachment of Immovable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court, the Special Officer & Competent Authority is issuing notice for e-auction of the immovable property through e-auction on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis'.
The intending bidders will be required to furnish Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (as mentioned against each auction in the e-portal provided by the Service Provider/Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only).

Short description of the Immovable Property (SPLOCA/AUC(2)/CR/03/2025-26)

Properties are free of all encumbrances and are in the name of Competent Authority appointed by Government and confirmed by the Special Court under KPIDFE Act, 2004. and Hon'ble High Court Of Karnataka has cleared the title (Khata stands in the name of Competent Authority and Auctioning Authority)

Sl. No.	DETAILS OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 688/2019)	Minimum Bid Price (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)
1.	# 48, PID No. 64-86-48, 30th Cross, Bannerughatta Road, ward No: 46, Thilakanagar, Bengaluru- 560041. Measuring North to South 40 ft, East to West 90+95/2 ft Total 3500 Sq.ft Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/WT1vyZFt135vgjKv7			
(a)	Ground Floor-1, Flat No.GF-01, UDS-417.53, SBA-1593.75 Sq.ft	1,44,49,500/-	14,45,000/-	1,45,000/-
(b)	Ground Floor-2, Flat No.GF-02, UDS-417.53, SBA-1593.75 Sq.ft	1,44,49,500/-	14,45,000/-	1,45,000/-
(c)	1st Floor-1, Flat No.FF-01, UDS-417.53, SBA-1593.75 Sq.ft	1,46,01,500/-	14,61,000/-	1,47,000/-
(d)	1st Floor-2, Flat No.FF-02, UDS-417.53, SBA-1593.75 Sq.ft	1,46,01,500/-	14,61,000/-	1,47,000/-
(e)	2nd Floor-1, Flat No.SF-01, UDS-417.53, SBA-1593.75 Sq.ft	1,47,44,000/-	14,75,000/-	1,48,000/-
(f)	2nd Floor-2, Flat No.SF-02, UDS-417.53, SBA-1593.75 Sq.ft	1,47,44,000/-	14,75,000/-	1,48,000/-
(g)	3 rd Floor Merged Flat, Flat No.TF-01, UDS-835.06, SBA-3187.50 sq.ft	2,89,76,900/-	28,98,000/-	2,90,000/-
(h)	4th Floor, Office Space, UDS 359.77, SBA-1500 Sq.ft	1,36,80,000/-	13,68,000/-	1,37,000/-

Date of Pre-bid meeting & time and Place	Date of Inspection & time	Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission	Date & Time of E Auction
19th November 2025, 3 pm to 4 pm Place: O/o SPLOCA, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Tower, Bengaluru-01	20th November 2025 11:00am to 05:00pm	27th November 2025 Before 5pm	28th November 2025 11 am to 1 pm

For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Helpdesk No: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Assistant Commissioner, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Towers, Dr.Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: splocaeauction@gmail.com or Contact Mob. No 6364403715.

Sd/-
Special Officer & Competent Authority
(Under KPIDFE –IMA & Other Scam) Bengaluru.

Date: 29-10-2025
Place: Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/3568/Zen/2025-26

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS

Advt. No. 105/2025
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
DIRECTOR (FINANCE)
in
ITI LIMITED
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by **15:00 hours on 20th November, 2025**
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by **17:00 hours on 01st December, 2025**
For details login to website
https://pesb.gov.in

GENERAL

UDUPI COCHIN SHIPYARD LIMITED
MALPE, KARNATAKA
A Government of India enterprise
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India
Ref. No. UCSL/IMS/HR/VN/F/11-DM/PNT/ED/AS/2025/56 Dated 31 October 2025

RECRUITMENT
EXECUTIVE ON PERMANENT BASIS

Sl. No	Name of Posts	No. of Posts
01	Deputy Manager (Painting)	01 Post
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Migration debate

There is nothing inherently undesirable about outward migration

Migration has been a central theme in the Bihar Assembly election campaign, the first phase of which ended on Tuesday. Parties have sought to frame the migration debate in different ways, but it is important for the sake of the State and the country to get this correct. The Opposition, led by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), has blamed the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) for the heavy out-migration from the State to other parts of the country for opportunities; the Bharatiya Janata Party-Janata Dal (United) [BJP-JD(U)] axis, which has been in power for 20 years, is partly in denial of the issue while disingenuously raising the bogey of illegal immigrants in the State. The scaremongering around illegal migrants in the State by the ruling combine would have been laughable but for the cynicism and xenophobia associated with it. For one, the Special Intensive Revision, which was touted by the Election Commission of India as an exercise to purify the electoral rolls, demonstrated that there was no large-scale presence of immigrants in the State.

The Opposition ran its campaign on the slogan: 'Generate employment, stop migration'. As per the 2011 Census, 74.54 lakh migrants from Bihar are spread across the rest of India. It is sad that the BJP, at the highest level, conjured up a phantom of anti-Bihari sentiment in other parts of the country, purely for short-term political gains in an election. Migration of people is integral to human development, and there is nothing inherently undesirable about it. The Opposition has argued that the BJP-JD(U) government has turned Bihar into a supplier of migrant labour and has promised to create local employment opportunities. Creating infrastructure and opportunities should be part of any robust election conversation, but that can be achieved while maintaining a more sanguine view about migration. Bihar has high fertility and a younger population relative to other parts of the country. Regional variations in economic opportunities and demographic trends make the movement of people inevitable. Bihar should focus on its education and health standards and build a highly productive and skilled workforce that adds momentum to its own growth by being part of India's economic growth.

Compound effect

Southeast Asian scam factories demand a coordinated response

The Supreme Court's call for a comprehensive inquiry into the proliferating menace of digital scams reflects the alarming scale at which Indian citizens are being defrauded. The Bench's particular focus on 'digital arrest' scams – where fraudsters impersonate law enforcement officials to extort money – underscores the sophistication and brazenness of these operations. What distinguishes the current wave of digital fraud from conventional cybercrime is its industrial scale and cross-border architecture. A sprawling network of "scam compounds" operates from conflict-torn regions and special economic zones across Southeast Asia, particularly in Myanmar, where state control is minimal and where, disturbingly, regime complicity appears evident. The mechanics of this modern-day slavery racket are chilling. Victims are lured through fraudulent job advertisements promising attractive salaries and perks, often via Bangkok, in exploitation of visa-free regimes. From there, they are trafficked across borders, primarily into Myanmar's regions controlled by Border Guard Forces allied with the military junta. These compounds function as digital sweatshops where trafficked individuals are coerced through violence, torture, and sexual harassment to perpetrate elaborate scams, including "pig butchering", a sophisticated combination of romance and cryptocurrency investment fraud. Myanmar's civil war has created ideal conditions for these operations to flourish. The junta's 2021 coup and subsequent conflict emboldened the ethnic militias, rebranded as Border Guard Forces, who found lucrative revenue streams in hosting scam centres that could be "taxed" to fund military operations.

Proceeds are laundered through "mules" and dubious financial institutions such as Cambodia's Huione Pay before being converted into cryptocurrency, making tracing and recovery nearly impossible. Global monitors have identified Chinese-organised crime syndicates as the kingpins orchestrating these transnational networks. India faces a dual crisis: thousands of its citizens are trafficked into forced scam labour under brutal conditions, while thousands more at home fall victim to the very frauds these captives are forced to perpetrate. This demands a multi-pronged response. The Reserve Bank of India, along with Union and State governments, must launch extensive public awareness campaigns about these scams while strengthening cybercrime infrastructure and policing capabilities. India must leverage diplomatic channels to forge a coordinated regional response. Working with China, Thailand, Vietnam, and other affected nations, India should exert maximum pressure on the Myanmar junta and Cambodia's regime to dismantle these operations. The United Nations must also be mobilised to recognise this for what it truly is: a modern manifestation of slavery that demands urgent international intervention.

Bihar's electoral battles should be about land, not caste alone

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Pick up any newspaper, scroll through social media, or attend a rally in Bihar ahead of the elections, and you will see a familiar political playbook in action.

The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) continues to field candidates from its core base – Yadavs and Muslims. But recognising the limits of this strategy, it now promises government jobs to a population desperate for steady income. Years of poor economic growth have forced millions to migrate out of Bihar in search of work. The RJD hopes to raise a fevered pitch on this subject and win support from an electorate for whom migration has become a major issue.

The Congress, having lost its erstwhile support bases among 'forward castes' to the BJP, has brought its national narrative to Bihar: inclusivity, constitutional values, and secularism. It is pitting these against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s divisive communalism. This message resonates in parts of semi-urban Bihar. But it is clear that the party's heydays are behind it.

The Left parties speak the language of rights and redistribution – land reforms, labour rights, dignity for workers. But except in some pockets, they have not built a mass base. Smaller players such as the Vikassheel Insaan Party have been brought in to peel away support from marginalised communities that have traditionally backed the ruling Janata Dal (United) or JD(U).

The other side

On the other side stands the JD(U) and its leader Nitish Kumar. The party is the inheritor of the Karpoori Thakur formula – mobilising Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs) and 'Mahadalits' alongside smaller but powerful non-Yadav Other Backward Classes (OBCs) such as Kurmis and Koeris. To expand beyond this base, Mr. Kumar has spent years cultivating women voters through welfare schemes. Now he is betting heavily on the popularity of a one-time cash transfer to women to carry him through this election.

The BJP seeks to retain the support of 'forward' castes – those who view OBC political dominance with resentment. But it is also trying to build a broader coalition through Central government welfare schemes and a strident appeal to Hindutva, aiming to consolidate Hindu voters across caste lines. To keep the middle class and urban voters on board, it emphasises "development", which in Bihar largely means building roads and bridges across the riverine landscape. In a State with some of India's worst human development indicators, this limited definition of development speaks volumes.

Beyond the BJP and JD(U), the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) includes smaller caste-based parties – the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP), Hindustani Awam Morcha, and Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM), each representing specific non-Yadav OBC and Dalit constituencies.

And then there is the newcomer: the Jan Suraaj Party (JSP), which claims to offer something different – less focus on caste patronage, more emphasis on good governance and welfare through better administration.

In short, Bihar's 2025 election reflects the three forces that have shaped Indian politics since the 1990s: Mandal (caste-based reservations and identity politics), Mandir (Hindutva consolidation), and Market (developmentalism). Each party emphasises these in different combinations, but Mandal politics remains the most salient factor.

> Decades of 'social justice' politics have brought backward castes to power. But the wealth remains with a tiny forward caste elite. Why won't anyone talk about redistribution?

This contest – with its promises of jobs, welfare, women's empowerment, and development – obscures a fundamental reality. Except for the Left parties, which lack electoral strength, no major player is talking about Bihar's core problem, which has two interconnected parts.

The first is land. Despite decades of fragmentation, land ownership in Bihar remains skewed towards forward caste elites. This concentration of agricultural land is not just an economic issue; it is the foundation of social and political power that has persisted for generations. The second is the missing industry. Bihar has one natural strength: fertile agricultural land. This should have spawned a thriving agro-processing industry – food processing units, packaging facilities, supply chain infrastructure that creates jobs and adds value to farm produce. Instead, Bihar exports its raw agricultural output and its people. The concentration of land in the hands of an elite that has historically favoured rent-seeking over capital investment has stifled the emergence of a dynamic agro-industrial sector.

These two issues – land concentration and the absence of agro-processing – are keys to understanding why Bihar remains poor despite decades of "social justice" politics and years of "development" governance. They are also the issues that every major party is carefully avoiding because addressing them would mean challenging entrenched interests: big landowners (including wealthy farmers from OBC communities), forward caste economic dominance, and the entire political economy that keeps the current system running.

Bihar's backward caste leaders – Lalu Prasad Yadav, Nitish Kumar, and others – rose to power in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Most people credit this to the socialist movements of the mid-20th century. But the roots go back further, to the Triveni Sangh movement of the 1920s-30s. Back then, backward caste leaders challenged the dominance of forward castes (Rajput, Bhumihar, Brahmin, Kayastha) who controlled land, wealth, and power. They wanted literacy, education, and a fairer distribution of resources.

Nearly a century later, Bihar's core problem remains the same: a tiny minority still controls most of the wealth. The Bihar caste survey reveals a stark reality. Forward castes make up just 15.5% of the population, yet they hold 31% of all government jobs. While 10% of forward caste households earn over ₹50,000 per month, this figure drops to only 4% among OBCs, 2% among EBCs and Scheduled Castes, and less than 1% among Scheduled Tribes. Over 80% of large landholdings (those exceeding 20 acres) belong to forward castes according to India Human Development Survey (2011) and the National Sample Survey Organisation (2019). This concentration of resources has not just persisted; it has reproduced itself through networks, influence, and access to power.

Political power without economic change

Bihar has achieved political democracy. Backward castes have held power for decades. But this has not translated into economic democracy. The wealth is still in the same hands.

To understand why Bihar' s political leaders – even those from backward castes who fought for social justice – have avoided these fundamental issues, we need to look at what battles they chose to fight. Mr. Prasad championed social justice aggressively. But he focused on challenging forward castes while ignoring, or even suppressing, other backward and extremely backward castes. He did not address land redistribution or economic inequality. He only fought "neighbourhood battles" – challenging the castes directly above Yadavs in the hierarchy rather than the entire system of inequality. This approach sharpened tensions between Yadavs and other OBC/EBC groups.

Mr. Kumar took a different path. He built roads, schools, and provided electricity – infrastructure that benefits everyone. This looked like progress without threatening anyone's wealth. He even formed a Land Reforms Commission early on, but quickly abandoned anything that would challenge big landowners. The result? Infrastructure improved, but wealth distribution didn't change.

Neither Mr. Prasad nor Mr. Kumar was willing to challenge big landowners within their own castes (Yadavs and Kurmis), even though these are relatively few in number. Mr. Kumar, who has been in power for two decades, would have been voted out by now if the state of the Bihar economy was an indication of governance. But the opposition Mahagatbandhan (MGB) has not presented itself as a clear alternative, despite successful rallies and mobilisations.

Bihar now faces two possible paths. The first is development for the few – a continuation of the current model of growth that benefits big business and landowners, with some welfare schemes to pacify the masses. The second is inclusive growth – addressing the wealth gap, redistributing land, ensuring jobs and income reach all castes, and building agro-processing industries that create broad-based employment.

The newer political entrants exemplify the first path. The LJP's Chirag Paswan promises food processing industries, while the JSP's Prashant Kishor emphasises service sector growth and better governance. Both talk of development, but neither addresses wealth redistribution or land reform. Their models accept the concentration of resources in the hands of big landowners, businesses, and bureaucrats, promising only to make the system work more efficiently.

Both the NDA and MGB are multi-caste alliances, which prevents either from moving decisively in any direction. The MGB's recent policy papers – 'Parivartan Patra', 'Mai-Bahin Maan scheme', and 'Ati-Pichada Nyay Patra' – do show some understanding of inclusive development, with plans to empower women, EBCs, and Dalits. But given past broken promises, voters remain sceptical.

The Left parties have economic plans to redistribute wealth, but they have failed to connect these to social justice issues. Their politics is yet to reckon with facts such as a forward caste landless labourer faces very different barriers from a Dalit or EBC woman even if both are poor. Many Dalits who have been officially allotted land titles are unable to take physical possession due to social barriers.

To be seen as a credible alternative to the NDA, the MGB needed to send a clear, credible message that they are serious about inclusive growth, not just winning elections. They should have taken a message of redistribution and opportunity to voters, rather than making wishful welfare promises. They should have drawn a sharper ideological contrast with the NDA. Now their hopes are pinned on anti-incumbency alone.

Trump seems more in control of Israel than Hamas

Khinvraj Jangid

Professor and Director, Centre for Israel Studies, Jindal School of International Affairs, OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat

The Israel-Hamas ceasefire deal is facing a tough test as Hamas is yet to return the bodies of Israelis taken captive on October 7, 2023, as agreed in the deal. Teams from Egypt and the International Committee of the Red Cross are working with the Israeli military and Hamas to locate the bodies in Gaza. The BBC reported that there are still 13 bodies in Gaza. Hamas is either unable to locate the bodies or is pretending not to know where they are, to prolong this phase. Once all the bodies are returned, Hamas would have to surrender arms in the following phase. And that is where the real test of the ceasefire lies.

Meanwhile, in the past week, Hamas killed an Israeli soldier in northern Gaza. In return, the Israeli army attacked Gaza, killing more than 100 people in a day. Qatar, an ally of U.S. President Donald Trump, defended Israel and accused Hamas of violating the ceasefire deal.

The pressure on Israel

Mr. Trump has deployed about 200 U.S. military personnel in Israel to support monitoring and coordination efforts. This is to show that he is serious about the ceasefire and to also demonstrate his distrust of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the Israeli army. American drones are monitoring Gaza. This kind of direct U.S. surveillance is unprecedented in the last two years of the war. The political and military pressure on Israel was visible last week when the top men of the Trump administration – Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, Mr. Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, and Vice President J.D. Vance – were all in Jerusalem. "We (the American establishment) are calling the shots here" was the message, which created domestic troubles for Mr. Netanyahu. He had to appear not pressured by Mr. Trump and reassure Israelis that Israel remains a sovereign state and not a 'client state' of America. The hardliners in the Israeli government dislike Mr. Trump's 20-Point Gaza Plan, but they could not reject it under threat of losing American support. Mr. Trump's statement that "Israel will lose all the support from the U.S. if it annexes the West Bank" was another blow to the right-wing settler movement's ambitions.

> The Israeli government, though militarily superior, is forced to follow Washington's script to retain its strategic cover. Hamas, though militarily weaker, is ideologically freer and less dependent

Less leverage on Hamas

Whether they like them or hate them, Israeli leaders, including Mr. Netanyahu, are not in a position to oppose Mr. Trump's ideas about how to conclude the remaining war in Gaza. An International Stabilization Force for Gaza is being planned, which will further take over control from the Israeli army. Yet Mr. Trump will have far less leverage on Hamas to keep it bound to the ceasefire. Hamas has stood up to his threats since January 2025 and has not released the hostages without a major concession from Israel. Now that it has extracted political advantage, it will act more assertively and resist disarmament. Qatar and Turkey coerced Hamas into the deal because both wish to please Mr. Trump while seeking influence in Gaza's reconstruction. How long Hamas will remain obliged to them is a critical question in the coming weeks.

A curious paradox

What is emerging, therefore, is a curious paradox: Mr. Trump seems in control of Israel, but far less so of Hamas. The Israeli government, though militarily superior, is politically cornered – forced to follow Washington's script to retain its strategic cover. Hamas, though militarily weaker, is ideologically freer and less dependent. Mr. Trump's style of muscular diplomacy, rooted in threats and transactionalism, may bring temporary calm, but it risks breeding long-term resentment in the region.

For Mr. Netanyahu, this moment is both humiliating and useful. It allows him to outsource the burden of peace to Mr. Trump while deflecting domestic anger over the war's failures. Yet it also exposes how Israel's sovereignty is tethered to American politics – a vulnerability that will deepen as U.S. elections draw nearer. In contrast, Hamas and its backers will exploit the optics of Israeli submission to foreign dictates.

Ultimately, Mr. Trump's deal diplomacy may succeed in imposing a pause, but not peace. The asymmetry of power between Israel and Hamas cannot be resolved by American command alone. Stability in Gaza will demand something that Mr. Trump's world view rarely accommodates – restraint, reconciliation, and regional ownership. And while Mr. Trump enjoys the image of a dealmaker, he might soon discover that in West Asia, even the best "deals" unravel once the cameras are gone.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preventing accidents

It was painful to read about the road accidents in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Rajasthan (Nov. 4). These accidents should open the eyes of our public representatives. Highways, once considered as a mark of development, are often death traps. Speeding must be taken seriously and fined and CCTVs must be deployed to monitor highways. Safety must take precedence over toll gate collections.

Kshirasagara Balaji Rao
Hyderabad

The train collision near Bilaspur railway station in Chhattisgarh exposes the lack of poor safety measures. The Railway Ministry and the authorities should take the blame, since the focus is only on modernisation and on introducing new trains. The priority should be on safety, but it sadly never seemss to get due attention, despite these glaring accidents.

Balasubramaniam Pavani
Secunderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

India's forests hold the future

C.K. Mishra

Former secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Views expressed are personal

Suryaprabha Sadasivan

Senior Vice President at Chase Advisors. Views expressed are personal

As India navigates the twin imperatives of economic growth and sustainable development, forests are once again finding their rightful place in the national climate conversation. The recent release of the revised blueprint for the Green India Mission (GIM) puts restoration at the forefront. The ambition is bold: restore 25 million hectares of degraded forest and non-forest land by 2030.

This isn't just about greening land for its own sake. It directly ties to India's climate pledge to create an additional carbon sink of up to 3.39 billion tonnes of CO_2 equivalent by the end of this decade. The big question is not just how much land India restores, but how it restores it.

Quality question

A 2025 study by IIT Kharagpur, in collaboration with IIT Bombay and BITS Pilani, reported a 12% decline in photosynthetic efficiency of dense forests across India. The main cause? Rising temperatures and drying soil. Put simply, while India may be growing its forest cover, these forests are becoming less effective at absorbing carbon. This discovery challenges the old assumption that "more trees equal more carbon sinks" and instead highlights the need for restoration that enhances ecological resilience, not just canopy cover.

The revised GIM is not starting from scratch. Between 2015 and 2021, the Mission supported afforestation across 11.22 million hectares, with ₹575 crore disbursed to 18 states. During this period, forest and tree cover increased from 24.16% in 2015 to 25.17% in 2023.

The new blueprint expands the lens, focusing on biodiversity-rich landscapes like the Aravalli Hills, Western Ghats, mangroves, and Himalayan catchments. It also aims to link efforts with other government programmes such as the National Agroforestry Policy, watershed initiatives, and the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). But as with most ambitious missions, the challenge lies in turning policy into practice.

India's afforestation story has long wrestled with three stubborn gaps: community participation, ecological design, and financing.

Nearly 200 million Indians depend on forests for daily survival. The Forest Rights Act (2006) legally empowers them to manage and protect their landscapes. Yet in practice, many plantation drives bypass these communities, ignoring their claims and consent. This erodes trust and undermines both legality and social legitimacy. However, there are bright spots. In Odisha, Joint Forest Management Committees are integrated into planning and revenue-sharing. In Chhattisgarh, forest departments are experimenting with biodiversity-sensitive plantations and reviving barren cattle shelters by planting mahua trees, aligning ecology with tribal livelihoods.

Going native

For decades, afforestation has leaned heavily on monocultures of eucalyptus or acacia, which are fast-growing, yes, but ecologically damaging. They deplete groundwater, crowd out native biodiversity, and leave forests vulnerable to climate stress. The revised GIM promises a shift toward native, site-specific species, which is encouraging.

However, the real test is whether local forest departments possess the necessary expertise and capacity to deliver. India already has training institutes in Uttarakhand, Coimbatore, and Byrnihat that could be harnessed to equip frontline staff with ecological know-how. Some States are leading the way. Tamil Nadu, for instance, has nearly doubled its mangrove cover in just three years, offering both carbon storage and coastal protection.

Perhaps the biggest bottleneck is financing. The CAMPA fund now holds a staggering ₹95,000 crore, yet utilisation is inconsistent. Delhi, for example, spent only 23% of its approved funds between 2019 and 2024. GIM itself has had to make do with modest allocations, relying heavily on CAMPA.

The way forward isn't just about more money, but about smarter use of it. The good news is that some States are experimenting with new financing tools. Himachal Pradesh has launched a biochar programme to generate carbon credits while reducing fire risks. Uttar Pradesh has planted over 39 crore saplings this year and is exploring how to connect village councils to carbon markets.

Building blocks

Despite the hurdles, India has the building blocks: strong legal frameworks, sizeable financing pools, institutional capacity, and promising local models. What's needed is alignment.

Communities must be empowered to lead. Forest departments need the skills and incentives to prioritise ecological restoration over plantation targets. The central government can enhance accountability by implementing public dashboards that track survival rates, species mix, fund utilisation, and community participation. CAMPA could broaden its scope to cover participatory planning and adaptive management, rather than sticking narrowly to planting. Civil society and research institutions also have a role, from providing technical expertise to designing participatory monitoring tools. This shared effort is what can transform GIM from a government programme into a national movement.

As India looks toward Viksit Bharat 2047, forests are not merely an environmental concern; they are the future capital. The path to restoring 25 million hectares is not easy, but if pursued with rigour, inclusion, and foresight, it could reshape how the world thinks about restoration.

India's afforestation story has long wrestled with three gaps - community participation, ecological design, and financing

Lives saved, livelihoods lost

Odisha's real challenge begins after the storm

STATE OF PLAY

Sushanta Mahapatra

When Cyclone Montha struck the eastern coast on October 28, 2025, it repeated a grim pattern familiar to Odisha and its neighbours—flattening fields, flooding villages, and sending thousands into shelters. Making landfall between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh with winds of 100-110 kmph, the storm swept inland through southern Odisha's Ganjam, Rayagada and Koraput districts and parts of Telangana before weakening into a depression.

Early reports suggest extensive crop and horticultural losses across the region. The swift evacuation of thousands once again demonstrated Odisha's preparedness, but the greater challenge now lies ahead—protecting livelihoods after the storm.

Odisha's vulnerability to tropical cyclones is structural, not accidental. Its 575-kilometre coastline lies in one of the world's six most cyclone-prone regions. Over the past century, nearly 260 cyclones have struck the State—from the catastrophic 1999 supercyclone to Phailin in 2013, Titli in 2018, Fani in 2019, and Yaas in 2021.

Phailin alone caused losses of nearly ₹9,000 crore, with agriculture and livestock contributing more than a quarter of that amount. Counting fatalities alone thus misses the larger and more enduring costs of these disasters.

The immediate economic shock is swift and devastating. Montha's destruction will mean acute income losses for marginal farmers, cash-flow crises for traders, and food

supply disruptions in nearby towns. After Cyclone Fani, a UNDP-led assessment estimated about ₹3,000 crore in damage to agriculture, livestock and fisheries, and nearly seven crore lost rural working days—roughly ₹2,700 crore in lost wages. The economic pain lingers long after the storm dissipates. Farmers still need to repay loans, buy seeds and fertilisers, and restore irrigation before the next season begins. Fishers must replace nets, boats and iceboxes well before any insurance claim materialises.

Beyond these visible effects, the secondary slowdown is often more destructive. In storm-hit districts, informal businesses remain closed for months, credit tightens, and banks grow risk-averse. Public spending is diverted from development projects to reconstruction, delaying progress in health, education and infrastructure. Economists estimate that major cyclones can shave several percentage points off Odisha's gross State Domestic Product in affected years.

Over the past two decades, Odisha has transformed disaster management. The Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) has expanded cyclone shelters, strengthened early warnings, and institutionalised mass evacuations. The results are remarkable: the 1999 supercyclone killed nearly 10,000 people; Phailin fewer than 50; and Yaas in 2021 only two. Yet this progress in saving lives has not been matched by livelihood recovery. Reconstruction still prioritises visible infrastructure such as roads, housing and power.

Ecological pressures deepen the crisis. Storm surges and saltwater intrusion degrade fertile soils and wetlands, undermining the natural capital of smallholders and fishers. Rising seas prolong saline flooding, reducing yields and pushing farmers toward less profitable crops or migration. These shifts carry social costs—disrupted schooling, family separation, and weakening rural communities.

Odisha's next phase of resilience must prioritise livelihoods alongside lives. Crop and fishery insurance requires faster, simpler claims so producers can replant or rebuild quickly. Emergency credit and brief loan moratoria can avert distress sales. Expanding MGNREGS for rebuilding embankments and ponds can inject cash and restore assets.

Equally vital is nature-based protection. Mangroves, wetlands and tidal buffers can cut wave energy by up to 90%, offering both ecological and livelihood security. Odisha's UN-backed mangrove restoration and climate-smart aquaculture, from mud-crab farming to rice intensification, show how adaptation can sustain incomes.

Financial systems must also adapt. A mix of contingency funds, regional insurance pools, flexible central transfers, and partnerships should channel resources directly to smallholders and coastal communities.

The author teaches economics at ICFAI School of Social Sciences, IFHE. Views expressed are personal.

Will horse-trading slow AIMIM's dark horse run in 2025

With several MLAs and candidates leaving after the 2020 polls, the party will find it tough to reprise the spoiler role

DATA POINT

Nitika Francis
Sambavi Parthasarathy
Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The 2020 Bihar Assembly election proved to be a close contest between the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and the RJD-led Mahagatbandhan (MGB). One key factor behind the MGB falling short of the majority mark was the spoiler effect created by Asaduddin Owaisi's All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM).

The party won five seats in the 2020 polls, all in constituencies with a relatively higher Muslim population in Bihar. Although AIMIM secured only 1.3% of the State's votes, the support was concentrated. For instance, in 2020, AIMIM and its allies secured less than 0.5% of the votes each in seats with less than 25% and 25-40% Muslim populations, winning no seats in such constituencies. In contrast, the alliance secured 27.2% of votes in seats with more than 40% Muslim population, winning 5 out of 8 seats contested in such constituencies. **(Chart 1)**

To identify constituencies with higher Muslim populations, The Hindu Data Team adopted the following approach. Its earlier analysis of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls showed that there was no disproportionate deletion of Muslim voters in the State. In other words, the share of Muslims in the total population and their share among deleted electors were broadly similar across all seats. Consequently, if the share of deleted Muslim voters in a constituency was relatively higher, it indicated a higher concentration of Muslim population there. This measure was therefore used as a proxy to identify Muslim-predominant seats. **(Map 2)**

AIMIM and its current alliance partners are once again following a targeted approach in 2025, with party fielding candidates in 28 seats, mostly in the Seemanchal region (eastern Bihar, where the Muslim population is significant. However, much has changed since the 2020 polls. Several of the party's former candidates and MLAs have switched sides, with some now contesting from seats offered by rival parties in 2025. **Table 3** lists select examples of such political realignments.

Within two years of the elections, four of the five MLAs had joined the RJD. Only one of them, Shahnawaz, is contesting the 2025 elections from an RJD seat. The fifth MLA, Akhtarul Iman, who also serves as AIMIM's Bihar State president, has remained with the party and is contesting again. At least two candidates who lost in 2020 have also switched sides, one of whom is contesting from a Congress seat. **(Table 3)**

Moreover, the alliance forged by AIMIM in 2020 proved short-lived. This time, the party with a new coalition. AIMIM is aiming to replicate its 2020 performance by tapping into discontent within Muslim communities, particularly in areas where they constitute a significant population. In fact, a comparison of vote shares and strike rates by the alliances in 2020 and 2015 reveals the significant impact made by AIMIM.

For example, in constituencies with over 40% Muslim population, the MGB's vote share increased from 26% in 2015 to 36% in 2020. During the same period, AIMIM and its partners boosted their vote share from 5.2% to 27.3%, while the NDA's share declined from around 39.8% to 22% **(Chart 4a)**

Despite this gain in vote share, the MGB's strike rate dropped from 62.5% in 2015 to 33.3% in 2020 in these constituencies. Conversely, AIMIM and its partners improved their strike rate from 0% to 62.5%. The NDA saw a decline in strike rate from 50% to 12.5%. **(Chart 4b)**

Figures arrived at using present alliances and past electoral data.

Will the spoiler return?

The data for the charts were sourced from Lok Dhaba and the Election Commission of India

Chart 1: Vote share (in %) and seats won by AIMIM and its partners in seats with varying Muslim populations in Bihar

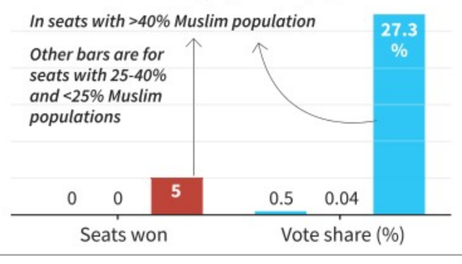


Chart 4a: Vote share (in %) secured by different alliances in constituencies with over 40% Muslim population

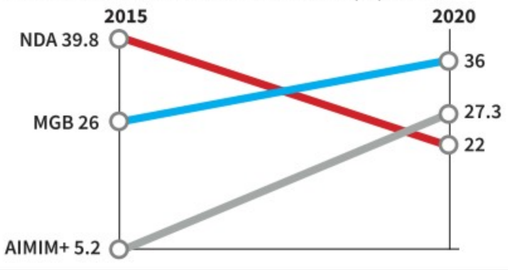
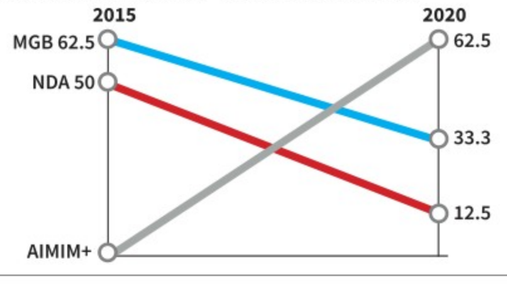


Chart 4b: Strike rates (in %) of different alliances in constituencies with over 40% Muslim population



Map 2: Share of Muslims among deleted electors in a constituency in the SIR

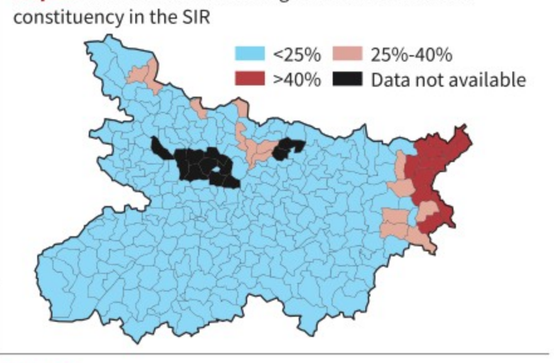


Table 3: List of political realignments of select AIMIM candidates since the last election in 2020

Constituency in 2020	Candidate	2020 result	Party moved to	Party contesting from (2025)
Araria	Md. Rashid Anwer	Lost	Rashtriya Ulama Council	Rashtriya Ulama Council
Jokihat	Shahnawaz	Won	RJD	RJD
Bahadurganj	Mohammad Anzar Nayeemi	Won	RJD	-
Kishanganj	Md. Qamrul Hoda	Lost	Congress	Congress
Kochadhaman	Muhammed Izhar Asfi	Won	RJD	-
Amour	Syed Ruknuddin Ahmad	Won	RJD	-
Baisi	Akhtarul Iman	Won	-	AIMIM

With inputs from Areena Arora

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 5, 1975

New forensic method for crime detection

MADRAS, Nov. 4: Investigation of cases of thefts of idols may become easier by the application of a new technique of forensic science called Thermoluminescence (TL). A non-destructive method of analysis, TL can be used for dating articles of antiquity—authentic art samples can be distinguished from spurious ones. The scope for adopting this process was explained at the recent Second all-India Forensic Science Conference at Ahmedabad by Mr. P. Chandra Sekharan, Additional Director of Tamil Nadu Forensic Science and Chemical Laboratory, Madras.

The major work in a forensic science laboratory is based upon a comparison of evidentiary material, with similar material whose origin is known. At times some of the clue materials are also required to be identified. The examination of such clues is carried out by evaluating the physico-chemical properties which are characteristic of the substances under scrutiny. The forensic scientist is expected to carry such a probe not only in very minute quantities of samples but also to preserve a portion of it at least, for production in courts. Hence he is in search of more and more of non-destructive methods of analysis.

A culprit may either leave some contact traces in or take away some, from the scene of crime.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 5, 1925

The Unpopular Shah

(Reuter's Agency.)

TEHERAN, Nov. 4: The Mejliss' resolution in favour of the deposition of the Kajar Dynasty was the result of a sudden rising of national sentiment against the Dynasty throughout Persia, and the Parliament, feeling the danger of a national revolution, passed the resolution for the deposition of Kajars and gave temporary rule to Premier Reza Khan Pehlevi, leaving the decision as to permanent rule with the National Constitutional Assembly.

Pehlevi has held public court and receptions and has expressed great hopes for the progress and future of Persia.

The ex-Crown Prince has undertaken a journey to Europe.

The Minister of Finance has been appointed acting Premier.

From Page One

SIR phase 2 begins in nine States, three U.T.s

Among these, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, and Puducherry will go to the polls in 2026.

The first phase of the SIR exercise was carried out in Bihar earlier this year, following which over 68 lakh names were deleted from the electoral rolls.

Addressing an anti-SIR rally in Kolkata, Ms. Banerjee said she would ensure the fall of the BJP-led government at the Centre if a single eligible voter was omitted from the electoral rolls.

"These people think they will remove two crore names and deport people to Bangladesh, or move them to detention camps and throw them out of the country to capture power," she said.

The commission, in a statement, said electors can check their names and the names of their relatives in the previous SIR electoral rolls at https://voters.eci.gov.in/ to provide the details in the enumeration forms. For assistance, electors can also connect with their BLOs using the 'Book-a-call with BLO" facility on the ECINet App or dial the toll-free helpline 1950 along with their STD code.

The draft rolls will be published on December 9, after which claims and objections can be submitted from December 9 to January 8. Notices will be issued, and hearings and verifications will take place from December 9 to January 31. The final electoral rolls will be published on February 7.

Campaigning ends for 121 seats in Bihar

Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Yadav questioned why the NDA had failed to provide jobs despite many years in power in both the State and Centre.

Mr. Shah addressed three back-to-back public meetings in three districts – Darbhanga, East Champaran, and West Champaran – covering nine Assembly constituencies.

In Darbhanga, he attacked the Opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), saying that Bihar has seen the jungle raj for 15 years and nobody wants to bring those days back again.

BJP president J.P. Nadda pushed a development narrative during his rally in the Barhara seat, followed by a road show in Gaya.

Eight killed as trains collide near Bilaspur

A passenger who was aboard the train and destined for Bilaspur said that he suddenly felt a jerk and the train came to a halt. "When I stepped out, I saw that the engine and the first coach had climbed up the last wagon of the goods train and many were trapped. I and some other passengers got out and started the rescue," he said.

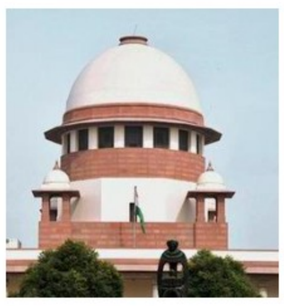
Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has expressed grief over the accident. He added that the Bilaspur District Collector has been instructed to provide all possible assistance and relief.

Leaders from the Opposition Congress and the ruling BJP have said that there was negligence. Congress leader and former Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singh Deo demanded the resignation of the Union Railway Minister, while Krishna Murty Bandhi, a BJP leader and a former State Minister, questioned how the goods train and the passenger train were on the same line.

SC flags misuse of POCSO Act to punish adolescent relations

The court mulls directions to raise awareness of provisions of the Act, and sexual equality among students, asks States and U.T.s to respond

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI



The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed concern over the growing misuse of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act to criminalise consensual adolescent relationships, and said it was considering issuing directions to spread legal awareness of the subject.

A Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and R. Mahadevan observed that while adjudicating bail pleas, it had repeatedly come across instances where stringent provisions of the law were being invoked as a form of retribution in situations not envisaged by its framers. The judges stressed the need for greater legal awareness, particularly among male adolescents, who are often at the receiving end of such prosecution.

"The POCSO Act is being misused in cases concerning consensual relationships between adolescents," Justice Nagarathna remarked, adding that parents frequently lodged complaints against boys involved in such relationships with girls of similar age. "We should spread awareness among boys and men about the legal provisions," she said.

The court was hearing a writ petition filed by senior advocate and petitioner-in-person Aabad Ponda, who had attributed the rise in sexual offences and crimes against women to inadequate education on gender equality. Accordingly, he had urged the inclusion of early sensitisation on gender parity and legal literacy in school curricula.

Earlier, the court had directed the Centre to indicate steps taken to include the concept of sexual equality and moral education in school syllabi, observing that "ethical and behavioural training on how men should treat women with respect" must be a vital part of education.

On Tuesday, the Bench noted that several States and Union Territories, including Telangana, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir, were yet to file their responses. Granting them "one last opportunity", the court said it would consider issuing directions to promote awareness regarding the POCSO framework once all responses were received.

CPJ calls for swift probe into threats against Ayyub

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has sought immediate steps by Indian authorities to guarantee the safety of journalist and *Washington Post* columnist Rana Ayyub and her family, after she "received multiple threats via her phone from someone who knew her home address".

Ms. Ayyub stated in a November 3 police complaint that she received multiple calls and messages the previous day, demanding that she write a column on the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. "The caller stated Ayyub's home address and threatened to send people there to attack her and to kill her father, who lives with her, if she failed to publish the article," the CPJ said.

Ms. Ayyub mentioned that the profile image of the caller matched a photo of "gangster Lawrence Bishnoi", who was lodged in a Gujarat prison, it said, adding that it was not able to identify Bishnoi's lawyer or verify the link between him and the caller.

EC has no mandate to hold pan-India SIR: Manish Tewari

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Manish Tewari

On a day the Election Commission (EC) began the second phase of the nationwide special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, senior Congress MP Manish Tewari said the exercise would be a "constitutional transgression" as the poll body does not have the mandate to conduct a pan-India intensive revision of this nature.

The former Information and Broadcasting Minister told *The Hindu* in an interview that the poll body can carry out such an exercise only in certain regions and constituencies, and that too if there is empirical evidence of the need for it.

"It is important to understand the constitutional and legal scheme with regard to powers of the EC. Article 324 of the Constitution empowers the EC to exercise superintendence, direction and control of elections. However, this is caveated by Article 327, which grants Parliament the power to make laws regarding all matters related to elections to either the Lok Sabha or a State legislature," said Mr. Tewari.

He explained that the primary statute which deals with the conduct of elections is the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and "it is within the framework of Section 21 of this Act that the Commission's proposal must be tested". Section 21 (2) of the RPA Act requires that electoral rolls be revised for every constituency before each general or by-election. It also foresees an annual revision at the EC's direction.

If the EC contends that the previous electoral rolls were so flawed that it mandated a wholesale rework, then where is the empirical evidence, he asked.

Leaders from Northeast plan a unified political entity

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

A group of political leaders from the northeastern States, including Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma, on Tuesday announced a "united singular political entity" for the region. The entity aims to represent a "strong, unified, and indigenous political voice" from the region at the national level.

It proposes to merge existing political parties from the region into a single unit and plans to contest future elections on its own.

Mr. Sangma was accompanied by TIPRA Motha's Pradyot Barman Manikya, BJP's Mmhonlumo Kikon and People's Party's Daniel Langthasa, for the announcement.

4 of extremist group killed in clash with security forces in Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Four members of the armed group United Kuki National Army (UKNA) were killed during an encounter with security forces in Churachandpur district of Manipur early on Tuesday morning.

The security forces later caught a member of the outfit during an incident at Khanpi village under the Henglep subdivision.

"...terrorists resorted to unprovoked firing on an Army column at Khanpi village, approximately 80 km west of Churachandpur, Manipur. In the ensuing firefight between security forces and armed cadres of UKNA, a non-SoO insurgent group, 04 cadres of the terrorist group were neutralised," a Defence Ministry statement read.

The Kuki Inpi Manipur has condemned the 'armed operation by the paramilitary forces on the UKNA'. FILE PHOTO

SoO expands to Suspension of Operations, encompassing two sets of ceasefire agreements between the Centre and some 25 armed groups of the Kuki and Zomi communities.

"This operation follows recent atrocities by UKNA cadres, including the killing of a village chief, intimidation of locals, and attempts to disrupt peace and stability in the region. Successful neutralisation of these terrorists highlights the Indian Army and Assam Rifles' commitment to protecting innocent civilians, mitigating all threats and ensuring peace and security in Manipur," the statement further read.

The UKNA has been mostly active in Churachandpur district.

The Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM), the apex body of the Kuki community, condemned the "armed operation by the paramilitary forces on the UKNA", and termed the incident a "grave injustice". It said the encounter caused "profound pain and outrage among the Kuki-Zo community".

The KIM reaffirmed its commitment to peaceful dialogue and cooperation with the Centre for an "enduring and honourable resolution", cautioning that "continued targeted actions against our community severely undermine trust and jeopardise the peace efforts".

'U.S. HIRE Bill could light a fire in Indian economy'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday cautioned that the Halting International Relocation of Employment (HIRE) Act, recently introduced in the U.S. Senate, could have far-reaching consequences for India's services sector if the proposal became law.

It would "light a fire in the Indian economy" if it became a reality, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X.

The Bill seeks to impose a 25% tax on any American person or company making an "outsourcing payment", he said.

"The Bill has a direct and deep impact on India's IT services, BPO, consulting and Global Capability Centres," Mr. Ramesh said.

'India-Israel ties are defined by trust, must ensure global approach to fight terrorism'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Israel's Foreign Affairs Minister Gideon Sa'ar in New Delhi. PTI

Against the backdrop of growing concern over the fragile ceasefire in Gaza Strip, Israel's Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar held talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Tuesday.

Starting the conversation at Hyderabad House, Mr. Jaishankar said the India-Israel ties were marked by a "high degree of trust" and "reliability". He said India-Israel counter-terror cooperation was "essential".

"India and Israel have a strategic partnership and particularly in our case, that term has a real meaning. We have stood together in testing times. And we have created a relationship with a high degree of trust and reliability," said Mr. Jaishankar. He said the two sides should work for "ensuring a global approach of zero-tolerance towards terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations". The two Ministers presided over the signing of an agreement between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service of the Ministry of External Affairs and the Foreign Ministry of Israel for training of diplomats.

After the meeting with Mr. Doval, Mr. Sa'ar said, "We discussed ways to cooperate and confront our common challenges, especially the mutual threat of terror. We are building a long-term strategic partnership between Israel and India.

Mr. Jaishankar expressed support for business-level cooperation between the two sides, adding, "Our businesses are very keen to explore opportunities in Israel, and we would certainly like to give that more attention."

Diplomatic sources had told *The Hindu* that Israel will undergo a major construction and infrastructure boom in the near future, for which it would require globally available expertise, including from relevant sectors in India.

Summit by *The Hindu*, CPCL to focus on India's path to a sustainable future

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Hindu, in association with Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (CPCL), will host the "Sustainability Summit 2025", co-presented by the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company, in Chennai on Friday. It aims to bring together leaders, policymakers, and industry experts to foster discussions on environmental responsibility, green innovation, and collaborative policies for a sustainable India.

The summit will see the participation of H. Shankar, Managing Director, CPCL; Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests; and Srivats Ram, former chairman, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Tamil Nadu, and managing director, Wheels India.

The day-long event will feature seven sessions on a range of sustainability themes. These include CPCL's sustainability journey in balancing growth and sustainability, and water conservation strategies.

The event also features a session exploring Tamil Nadu's initiatives on climate action and stewardship. Other sessions will touch upon energy transition in India, policy and governance in climate action, clean technology, and the role of finance in sustainable growth.

Highlighting CPCL's green milestones, Mr. Shankar said sustainability has been central to the company's operations for decades. "Looking ahead, we are advancing toward Net Zero operational emissions by 2046 through cleaner fuels, carbon capture, and green product development," he said.

Tamil Nadu has long believed that policy and action must go hand in hand, Ms. Sahu said. "No climate transition can succeed without an informed and engaged public. Building climate literacy and enabling a people-led movement for sustainability is essential," she said.

Event partners include Navin's as sustainability partner, NLC India Limited as associate partner, Larsen & Toubro as green partner, *Puthiya Thalaimurai* as TV partner, the CII as industry partner, and the Sustainable Energy and Environment Council as knowledge partner.

(Participation in the summit is by invitation only. For sponsorship queries, contact 98419 62820 or 97109 14914.)

SC directs ED to trace Mahadev betting app promoter Ravi Uppal

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to trace the whereabouts of Mahadev Online Book (MOB) app co-founder Ravi Uppal, observing that "kingpins" like him treat courts and investigating agencies as "mere instruments" to play with.

A Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Satish Chandra Sharma was hearing Mr. Uppal's appeal against a March 22 order of the Chhattisgarh High Court, which had refused to quash a non-bailable warrant issued by a Raipur special court on September 4, 2024. The High Court had held that the investigation revealed his possession of proceeds of crime and therefore, found no reason to interfere with the trial court's order.

Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju, appearing for the ED, informed the Bench that Mr. Uppal had fled from Dubai to an unknown location and is currently untraceable.

APPEAL

7 days old Baby of Anupriya is admitted in NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT of The Madras Medical Mission, Chennai. He is advised to undergo COMPLEX INFANT OPEN HEART SURGERY (ARTERIAL SWITCH OPERATION). He is a precious baby born after the 18 years of marriage. His parents cannot afford the huge treatment cost of Rs. 5,31,000/- due to his meager income. Please give a new lease of life to him with your generous contribution. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/M.O/ NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is requested.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No. 29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 31523781/ 7338978027.**
E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

BIHAR ASSEMBLY ELECTION

'Will transfer ₹30,000 to women in Jan.'

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and INDIA bloc chief ministerial face Tejashwi Yadav on Tuesday announced that on Makar Sankranti (January 14) next year, a government led by the alliance will deposit an entire year's honorarium of ₹30,000 into women's accounts under Mai-Bahin Maan Yojana if voted to power.

Addressing a press conference in Patna at his official residence ahead of the first phase of polling on November 6, the RJD leader also asserted that the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) will be implemented.

Besides, he said farmers will receive additional bonus on the purchase of paddy and wheat, free electricity for irrigation, and the interest on the loans of 'Jeevika Didis' will be waived, along with insurance of ₹5 lakh. PTI

Farmers would get ₹300 per quintal of paddy and ₹400 for wheat as a bonus over MSP, says the RJD leader. PTI

Functioning satellite centre of AMU must: SP

As Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav is campaigning extensively for the INDIA bloc in the Assembly election, his party on Tuesday pushed its demand for completion and making fully functional the satellite branch of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Kishanganj district of Bihar.

The party cited educational backwardness in Seemanchal region of which Kishanganj is a part, as the prime cause of economic underdevelopment of the region and Bihar overall. The SP said it is keen to address Seemanchal's development needs calling for a broader solidarity of socialist and democratic forces.

The AMU Kishanganj campus remains incomplete even after over a decade, operating from a temporary building. PTI

> Modi wants youth to become addicted to making reels, Instagram, Facebook... This is the new *nasha* (high) of the 21st century
>
> **RAHUL GANDHI**
> Congress leader

JD(U) leader booked for statement

An FIR was registered against JD(U) leader and Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' on Tuesday for making a controversial statement against Opposition leaders during campaigning for arrested JD(U) candidate Anant Singh in Bihar's Mokama, the Patna district administration said. PTI

> If Osama Shahab wins from Raghunathpur [constituency], it will be a defeat for Hindus... I am sure you people will reject Osama
>
> **HIMANTA BISWA SARMA**
> Assam Chief Minister

Priti Kinar at her home in Kalyanpur village in Bhorey Assembly constituency, Gopalganj district. AMIT BHELARI

Transgender candidate of JSP aims high in Bhorey seat

Amit Bhelari
BHOREY

Priti Kinar, the 41-year-old transgender candidate fielded by Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj Party (JSP) in the Bhorey constituency, has suddenly caught the limelight ahead of the Bihar Assembly election.

She faces a tough battle, as she is pitted against sitting Janata Dal (United) MLA Sunil Kumar, currently the State Education Minister and a former IPS officer. However, anti-incumbency sentiments and the voters' anger against the poor education situation in the constituency and in the State may help Ms. Kinar's case.

She is quite popular in her constituency in Gopalganj district, but reaching her village of Kalyanpur is a nightmarish journey along at least 20 km of dilapidated roads from Mirganj. Passengers travelling the route are livid, noting that Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar takes credit for constructing good roads across the State.

"You must have realised the quality of the road that Nitish Kumar *ji*'s government has constructed. This is the condition in the Assembly constituency of the State's Education Minister," Ms. Kinar told *The Hindu* once this reporter had reached her village.

Poor education, health

Bhorey, a reserved seat for Scheduled Castes (SCs), falls under Gopalganj Lok Sabha constituency and is located in northwestern Bihar, bordering Uttar Pradesh. Most Bhorey residents are dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods, with rice, wheat, maize, and sugarcane being the main crops of the area. There is hardly any industrial activity, barring a few rice mills and brick kilns.

Voters say that government schools in the constituency lack basic facilities and infrastructure. Government hospitals do not have the medicines needed to treat venomous snake bites, with several victims losing their lives while rushing to a private hospital in Gopalganj.

Grassroots experience

Having spent nearly two decades as a social worker, Ms. Kinar takes pride in the 10 to 15 girls she takes responsibility for each year, offering them financial help to get married.

"I have been engaged in social work since 2007. Wherever there is a need, I make sure that I reach on time and provide them as much help as possible. Even if it is midnight, I go and meet those affected by distress and disaster. Even my decision to join politics is due to the suggestions given by the people of Bhorey Assembly seat," Ms. Kinar said.

She had initially planned to contest as an Independent but then joined the JSP as she resonated with Mr. Kishor's ideology and promises. Most other political parties think only about their own family members, she said, expressing confidence that the JSP is different on that front.

Voter anger

Pankaj Kumar, a local resident, expressed his anger against the sitting Bhorey MLA, asking why Mr. Sunil Kumar has not done anything to stop paper leaks despite being the Education Minister. He pointed out that due to the poor quality of education, Bihar students go to other States.

In 2020, the JD(U) won Bhorey seat by a paper thin margin of just 462 votes.

Like most other National Democratic Alliance (NDA) leaders, Mr. Sunil Kumar is seeking votes based on the work done by the Chief Minister.

EBC voters hold the key to Bihar polls, Nitish remains their preferred choice

The grand alliance's prospects in the Bihar Assembly election hinges on its ability to break into Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's loyal vote bank; in the 2020 polls, the victory margin was below 5,000 in 52 seats, and a minor shift in the caste-based political loyalties could change the outcome this time

IN FOCUS

Sobhana K. Nair
GAYA/PATNA/DARBHANGA

For Kaushalendra Chouhan, a daily wage labourer from Makhdumpur, work is erratic, often requiring him to travel long distances. Yet he claims that travel has become easier and far safer under the present government. "There is no fear of being robbed while travelling at night," he says.

In the Keoti Assembly constituency, Ram Nath Thakur says life has not materially changed for him. He works in Kolkata and has returned home for the festivals and elections. He is a barber by profession and caste. "One can't make a living here. There are hardly any customers here," he says.

Mr. Chouhan and Mr. Thakur are both from the Extremely Backward Class (EBC), a diverse group of castes comprising 36% of the State's population, as per the caste count in Bihar. This group is entirely Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal (United) leader Nitish Kumar's creation, ostensibly for ensuring better reach of welfare policies. This classification is based on a reservation policy of 1978 implemented by socialist leader and former CM late Karpoori Thakur.

Thakur, a Nai (barber) by caste, remains the tallest EBC leader in the State. He reserved 26% of new government positions for "Backward Classes", in addition to existing quotas for the Scheduled Castes and Adivasis (24% combined). The Backward Classes were further divided into two lists. Annexure I, listing those among the backward community who were economically and socially worse off, got 12% reservation and 8% for Annexure II communities who were socially better placed. Annexure II is now categorised as Other Backward Classes and includes the Yadavs among others.

The EBC has historically been loyal to Mr. Kumar. The *Mahagatbandhan*'s success in the upcoming election will largely depend on its ability to win over a portion of this crucial vote bank.

In the last two decades that Mr. Kumar has been in power, Mr. Chouhan and Mr. Thakur's economic condition has not significantly improved. Yet, their electoral choice remains unchanged. Both have voted for the NDA in the past elections and continue to do so. Their choices are based partly on aversion for the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and partly on their loyalty to Mr. Kumar.

Consolidating support: The EBC category, which benefits from targeted welfare schemes, is Nitish Kumar's key political base, but there is dissatisfaction among some sections. R.V. MOORTHY

Victory margin

In the 2020 Assembly election, the victory margin was less than 5,000 in 52 of the 243 constituencies in Bihar. Even a minor shift in caste-based political loyalties could change the results.

The Hilsa constituency in Nalanda district exemplifies this volatility. In the 2020 election, the JD(U) won the seat. "People's mandate was in my favour," RJD leader Atri Muni says. He had been declared victor by a margin of 549 votes at 5 p.m. The JD(U)'s candidate Krishnamurari Sharan congratulated Mr. Muni and left the counting centre. But an hour later, Mr. Sharan was declared the winner with a difference of 12 votes. Mr. Muni had challenged the result, but the Patna High Court took three-and-a-half years to admit the plea, only to eventually dismiss it.

Mr. Muni reels off the caste arithmetic of Hilsa: with Yadavs and Kurmis evenly matched, the fragmented EBC vote will once again be decisive.

But not all are happy. Birendra Mistri is upset at the bribes he has to pay to get any paperwork done in the block office. He comes from the Badai caste that falls under EBC group. "Nitish stands for caste-based politics. He has filled the departments with officials from his caste...all his policies are limited to the paper. Nothing translates on the ground," he says. Having voted for the JD(U) in multiple elections, he is now looking for options.

Rajesh Kumar Sahu, also an EBC, nods along to Mr. Mistri's appraisal. He runs a small grocery shop. The business has been slow. His quibble with the government is the mass migration. "If everyone leaves, then how will I have customers," Mr. Sahu says. He too, like Mr. Mistri, is looking for options, but he rules out going with the RJD. "I could vote for Jan Suraaj," he replies after some thought. He is familiar with Jan Suraaj Party founder Prashant Kishor, but the candidate for Hilsa is not a familiar face. "I will see closer to the election, depending on which way everyone is voting," he says.

RJD, though aware of its limitation in breaking Mr. Kumar's stranglehold, has only 13 EBC candidates, as opposed to JD(U) which has 21. The grand alliance this time has two EBC parties – Mukesh Sahani's Vikassheel Insaan Party that represents the Mallahs and Nishads, and I.P. Gupta's Indian Inclusive Party that represents Tanti-Pan Samaj. But whether these relatively new entrants can mobilise enough support to shift the balance remains to be seen.

For now, Nitish Kumar continues to be the preferred choice for a majority of EBC voters.

For these '*baiyyas*' from Bihar, poll promises are made to be broken

Debayan Tewari
CHENNAI

Johnson Rai was selling vegetables at the Koyambedu wholesale market in Chennai when his phone rang on October 24. It was his brother from Purnia on the line. Amid the humdrum of haggling customers, the conversation was brief – "*Papa* has died." It was a cardiac arrest.

Mr. Johnson nodded, cut the call, and went back to business. His father had been unwell for some time, and Mr. Johnson, who works for a wholesaler dealing in exotic vegetables in the market, had been sending cash home. "Two days before he died, I sent home ₹20,000," he tells *The Hindu*.

After that call, Mr. Johnson took a metro to the Chennai airport, hoping to board a flight to Purnia. He had heard about the airport in his district but had never taken a flight before. "The person at the counter said there are no such flights," he says. Flights to Purnia are available from Kolkata, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, and New Delhi.

Johnson's plight – which perhaps typifies every migrant worker, skilled or otherwise, in the country – is one of the central themes of this Bihar election. The BJP, JD(U), and the RJD have promised jobs and opportunities that will stem this '*palayan*', or migration. Roughly, three crore Biharis work outside the State. But for these '*baiyyas*' – as the word '*bhaiyya*' is pronounced in Chennai – such poll promises are made to be broken.

Livelihood issues: Johnson Rai from Purnia in Bihar working at the Koyambedu vegetable market in Chennai. DEBAYAN TEWARI

Eastern States are India's 'labour factory', and people from there toil far away from home

'It is a jumla'

And Deepak Kumar of Motihari knows it too well. A graduate, Mr. Deepak had tried his luck in Patna before going to Pune where he learnt moulding and worked in a factory for six years. He briefly returned home to be with his family and then took up the job of a security supervisor at a metro rail construction site in Chennai. "I have old parents and two children back home. No job in Bihar will pay me enough to support them," he says. On being told about the RJD's promise of one government job per household, Mr. Deepak laughs it off, saying: "Everyone knows it is a *jumla* (false promise). Leaders can say anything to get votes."

His friend Jaggu, who later introduced himself as a "10th fail", interrupts the conversation, saying, "We don't need government jobs. Set up factories in Bihar." He cites the example of the Tamil Nadu government that reaches out to foreign countries to invest in the State. "If industries come up in Bihar, we will work there and spend our money there. The State's economy will automatically improve," he says.

Mr. Deepak and Mr. Jaggu concur that the eastern States are India's "labour factory", and people from there build high-rises and infrastructure elsewhere, toiling far away from home for a few thousands. While joking, Mr. Deepak makes this point, rather poignantly, "It is only in Bihar, Bengal, and Odisha that you will find people who will leave their homes for a salary of just ₹10,000."

Mohammed Aladdin, who came to Chennai in 2016 as a labourer and now manages a wholesale fruit shop, is backing Tejashwi Yadav, but he does not buy the RJD leader's government job pitch. "These people will say anything. After getting votes they will vanish, we all know that," he says. Unlike the other Bihari migrants here, Aladdin is rather well off and is travelling home to vote in the second phase on November 11.

"I have an agent who will book a flight to Purnia via Hyderabad," he says.

But on the other side of the market complex, Johnson is still not done. The shop closes at 5 p.m. and he is busy arranging Chinese cabbages and zucchinis on the shelves. Asked what his plans are for the evening, he replies, "*Kuch nahi* (nothing)."

NDA govt. in Bihar neglected women's safety, health: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday accused the BJP-JD(U) government in Bihar of showing "consistent neglect" towards women's safety, health, and dignity over the past two decades, while posing a set of questions to both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Party president Mallikarjun Kharge slammed the NDA government in Bihar over the security situation for women and asserted that the *Mahagatbandhan* (Grand Alliance) was fully committed to empowering and uplifting them.

Mr. Kharge said the Congress's promises were not just to garner votes during elections or right before them, but rather, they were the same promises that the party would fulfil.

"The BJP-JD(U) government in Bihar has been in power for 20 years. If even today, Modi *ji* has to say that in Bihar 'daughters-in-law and daughters are not safe', then this is his own self-admission that in 20 years, they have not made Bihar safe!" Mr. Kharge said in a post in Hindi on X.

The Congress chief said the situation of women and children was extremely alarming, and cited National Family Health Survey data to say 70% of children were afflicted with anaemia and 40% were malnourished. Only 11% of infants received adequate nutrition as per the NHFS survey, he said.

Mallikarjun Kharge

Citing NFHS data, the party chief says 70% of children in the State have anaemia and 40% are malnourished

Listing the promises made to women by the Grand Alliance, Mr. Kharge said they would be given an assistance of ₹2,500 per month if the Opposition alliance came to power. A monthly pension of ₹1,500-3,000 would be given to the elderly, widows, and disabled, he added.

INBRIEF

Maharashtra govt. announces ₹2.25 cr. for women cricketers

The Maharashtra government on Tuesday announced a cash prize of ₹2.25 crore each for Maharashtra's players in the Indian Women's Cricket Team which won the ICC Women's World Cup recently. As per the State government's policy, Jemima Rodrigues, Smriti Mandhana and Radha Yadav will be given the cash prize and will be felicitated by the State. Coach Amol Muzumdar, hailing from Mumbai will get ₹22.5 lakh. "Today, the cabinet has passed a resolution to congratulate the women's cricket team which won the ICC World Cup. Three players from Maharashtra will be honoured by the State government, will be given a cash prize as per our policy." said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.

Cough syrup tragedy: doctor's wife arrested in Chhindwara

The Madhya Pradesh Police have arrested the wife of paediatrician Praveen Soni, who is in jail for prescribing adulterated cough syrup that allegedly killed 25 children in Chhindwara and nearby districts, officers said on Tuesday. According to police, Jyoti Soni, proprietor of a pharmacy at Dr. Soni's private hospital in Parasia block of Chhindwara, where most of the children were prescribed the Coldrif syrup, was held on Monday night. Parasia sub-divisional officer of police (SDOP) Jitendra Jaat told *The Hindu* that Ms. Soni was arrested based on evidence that most of the syrup bottles had been purchased from her pharmacy.

SC to review surrogacy ban on couples with one child

Centre says there is no basic right to surrogacy, which involves the use of another woman's body; petitioner cites secondary fertility is emotionally taxing, notes India has no one-child policy

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday decided to examine whether a law banning married couples facing secondary infertility from using surrogacy to have a second child amounts to a state restriction on the reproductive choices of citizens.

The Union government has supported the constitutionality of the legal provision, Section 4(iii)(C)(II) of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, arguing that availing surrogacy cannot be claimed as a fundamental right. It has contended that surrogacy involves the use of the womb of another woman, the surrogate mother, and should be availed only after all other options to attain parenthood have failed, including natural birth and assisted reproductive technologies (ART).

"The Constitution does not recognise a right over another individual's body. Thus, the right to avail surrogacy cannot be claimed as a fundamental right and exists purely as a statutory right subject to conditions/ restrictions prescribed in the 2021 Act," the government submitted in the top court.

> Secondary infertility is a complex and emotionally challenging condition faced by couples who struggle to conceive a second child. Often burdened by stigma and misconceptions, this can be as distressing as primary infertility
>
> **MOHINI PRIYA**
> Advocate for petitioner

'Emotional toll'

Appearing before a Bench headed by Justice B.V. Nagarathna on Tuesday, advocate Mohini Priya, representing a couple facing secondary infertility and seeking to use surrogacy, argued that the state cannot interfere in the private lives and reproductive choices of citizens.

"Secondary infertility is a complex and emotionally challenging issue that many couples face when they struggle to conceive a second child after having successfully given birth to one or more children previously. This condition, often shrouded in stigma and misconceptions, can be just as distressing as primary infertility," Ms. Priya submitted.

The lawyer submitted that the definition of "infertility" in the context of surrogacy both in the ART Act and the Surrogacy Act was not restricted to primary infertility. She urged the court to read down Section 4(iii)(C)(II) to allow couples with secondary infertility to have a second child through surrogacy.

Balancing interests

The government pointed to the proviso to the Section, which offers an exception for couples with a child who is mentally or physically challenged or suffers from a life-threatening disorder or a fatal illness with no permanent cure. This applies whether their existing child is biologically theirs, adopted, or through surrogacy.

"This is a well-considered provision which balances the interests of an intending couple who may have a genuine, grave need to have a second child through surrogacy, while ensuring that a surrogacy procedure is not availed and a surrogate mother does not undergo an entire pregnancy when the intending couple already has a healthy, living child," the Centre said, backing the restriction.

'No one-child policy'

Justice Nagarathna orally remarked in court that the restriction imposed under the provision was "reasonable". The judge, on one occasion, referred to the burgeoning population of the country.

Ms. Priya noted that the country does not have a "one-child policy", insisting that couples could ensure the best interests of their first child while availing of surrogacy for a second child. She referred to the Adoption Regulations, 2017 under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, which allow three children of any gender to be adopted.

Online tournaments may be excluded from gaming ban: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The court says online contests such as in chess may be exempted from the new law.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday orally indicated that regular competitions and tournaments may be excluded from the ambit of the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025 as they do not come under the definition of "betting and gambling".

The 2025 law bans real money games, related banking services, and advertisements.

A Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and K.V. Viswanathan was hearing a request made by a "chess player" who plays the game online as a "livelihood", and said he was about to launch an app.

"India is a strange country... you say you are a player, it is your only source of income and you want to join these proceedings here... Are you betting or gambling?" Justice Pardiwala asked counsel for the player.

Counsel, speaking on behalf of his client, said he was a chess player who participated in "tournaments".

"Then there is no problem for you [from the Act]. They [the government] do not object to tournaments... Tournaments are completely excluded... So why come here?" Justice Pardiwala questioned the chess player. Additional Solicitor-General N. Venkataraman, appearing for the Union government, remarked the petitioner "does not play tournaments".

Counsel for the petitioner denied his client was into betting or gambling. He said these were online tournaments organised by companies.

Justice Pardiwala agreed to club the plea with other petitions filed by online platforms challenging the new law.

The court scheduled the case for a detailed hearing on November 26 even as senior advocate C.A. Sundaram and advocate Rohini Musa, appearing for the platforms, conveyed urgency.

Food systems huge violators of planetary limits: study

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Warning that food systems are the largest contributor to the breaching of planetary boundaries, accounting for five of seven breached boundaries, the 2025 EAT-Lancet Commission on Healthy, Sustainable and Just Food Systems has, in a report, called for placing justice at the centre of all food systems transformations.

India performed poorly on nitrogen overloading and pesticide pollution, straying from the global requirement of having 50-60% of intact nature, leading to loss of ecological functioning, the report stated. The report said under 1% of the world's population lives in a "safe and just space" meeting food needs sustainably.

DGCA plans full airfare refund for medical emergency cancellations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has proposed revised airfare refund norms requiring airlines to issue a full refund or credit note if a passenger cancels a flight due to a medical emergency, among several other changes.

It has also made airlines directly responsible for refunding passengers in cases where tickets were purchased through travel agents or online portals.

The proposals are part of the draft regulations on "Refund of Airline Tickets to Passengers of Public Transport Undertakings," for which the regulator has invited stakeholder comments until November 30.

The airline must ensure that the refund process is completed within 21 working days, the DGCA said.

Travellers without disabilities may have to pay for wheelchairs to ensure availability to those who need them the most. FILE PHOTO

Additionally, the aviation regulator has recommended extending the current 24-hour window for passengers to amend air tickets free of charge to 48 hours, provided such a change is made at least five days before the date of departure for domestic flights and 15 days before international flights. Earlier, the window applied up to seven days before departure without distinction between domestic and international travel.

Separately, the DGCA has also notified its revised norms for air travellers for differently abled passengers. Key changes include allowing airlines to levy a fee for wheelchair from travellers who have no disabilities with the aim to ensure the limited inventory is available to those who need them the most. This is an important amendment as airlines say the rules curb the misuse of wheelchairs by able-bodied passengers.

Inclusive travel

Airports will have to ensure ambulifts are available to enable easier embarking and disembarking of wheelchair-borne passengers. In case neither ambulifts or aerobridges are available, airports have to provide a towable ramp.

Airport also have to ensure there are adequate signages to demarcate areas for use by differently abled such as reserved cab drop-off points.

After visit to Vantara, global wildlife panel recommends India pause animal imports

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Panel 'could not find evidence' that the facility brought in animals for commercial purposes

A committee of CITES, the globe's most influential agreement on wildlife conservation, whose strictures on the cross-border movement of protected animal species inform national wildlife laws, has recommended that India's wildlife authorities pause the issue of permits that allow endangered animals to be imported by zoos, and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation centres.

This, CITES says, should be in place until India comprehensively reviews its practices and ensures that "due diligence is exercised systematically and consistently", and animal trade is not carried out in "violation of the Convention".

The recommendations are part of a report prepared by a CITES-designated committee after a visit to the Greens Zoological Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre (GZRRC) in Jamnagar, a part of the Vantara animal rescue and rehabilitation centre affiliated to the Reliance Foundation. The Radha Krishna Temple Elephant Welfare Trust (RKTEWT) is also a part of Vantara, and while primarily focused on elephant welfare, also has permissions to manage other imported species of fauna.

It also noted that it "could not find evidence" that the facility brought in animals for commercial purposes nor evidence that animals being imported to India lacked import, export, and re-export CITES permits.

Due diligence

The committee's report, uploaded on October 31 on the CITES website, noted that "...several imports [by GZRRC and RKTEWT] still raise questions regarding the origin of the specimens... the use of source and purpose-of-transaction codes, and the exercise of due diligence by India".

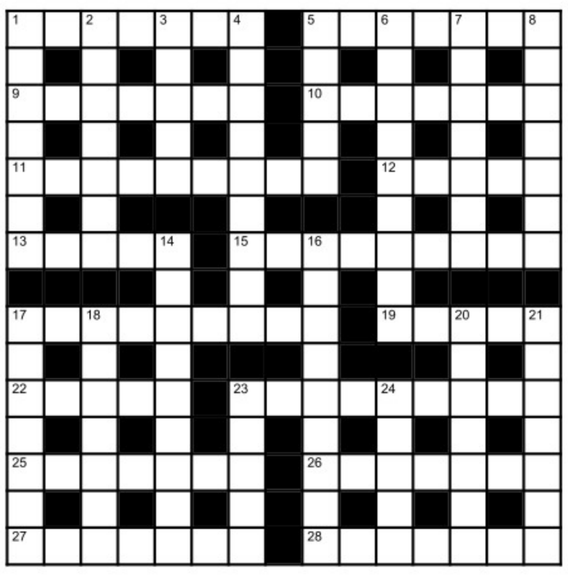
The Hindu reached out with detailed questionnaires to Vantara, and the Union Ministry of Environment for comment but had not heard back till the time of going to press.

TH CROSSWORD + 14631

(set by Avtaar)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://crossword.thehindu.com*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Judge finally ordered taking up discharged trooper's petition (7)
5 Old coin from Switzerland in play (7)
9 Notices on mobile vessels (7)
10 Master upset about sex with old Republican getting reflected in blue films (7)
11 Not feeling remorse, Unionist called to bury remains (9)
12 Gaudy, wild women leaving after tango (5)
13 Every other member of new poor class initially given hard time (5)
15 Evenly cut, thin tofu-okra toast - payment on the counter (3,3,3)
17 Legislator entering the bar flourished headgear (6,3)
19 Map regularly seen in Athens and India pulled back (5)
22 American leaves taking son on a voyage (2,3)
23 Bent CEO offering incentives at first, corrupted monk living in a religious community (9)
25 Last piece of apple pancake out of a busy joint (7)
26 Hygienic parking in a Southern state withdrawn (7)
27 Old-style photograph developed patiently, trimming panel at the edges (7)
28 One rescued from grotto returned with bits of unusually etched eoliths (7)

Down

1 Fellow avoiding fourteen cracks on the way (2,5)
2 Drum it with power - Onam's round the bend (7)
3 World starting to debate avoiding shortage (5)
4 Random chatter - teams are missing in long-drawn game (4,5)
5 Be apprehensive about department study (5)
6 With better grounds, keep probing Nairobi after expulsion of British national (1,8)
7 Look around in shed for short mop (7)
8 Shrink obsessed with bottoms of pretty, voluptuous patient (7)
14 Order of governance that is originally recorded on vault kept in empty hallway (9)
16 Cover of book "Bird and the French Batman" (5,4)
17 Frame leader in bribery scam (7)
18 Banks in Warwickshire behind cowboy film (7)
20 Dog lost his heart, exhausted near animal farm, reportedly (4-3)
21 From Eritrea - clean, sweet syrup (7)
23 Wood gets picked up (5)
24 The conclusion of a good over from the South End trapping Avtaar (5)

SUDOKU

		7		8			2	
					3			
4			9			6		8
	6	2			1		8	9
		4	6		2	1		
9	1		3			2	7	
8		1			9			3
			7					
	7			3		9		

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

R	O	A	D	M	A	P	S		N	U	M	B	E	R
E		N		A		E		G		R		A		E
P	A	N	A	C	E	A		O	R	G	A	N	I	C
O		U		C		R		I		E		D		H
R	E	A	C	H		L	A	N	D	S	C	A	P	E
T		L		I		S		G				N		C
			P	A	T	O	N	T	H	E	B	A	C	K
O		I		T		F		O		M		S		S
D	O	C	T	O	R	W	A	T	S	O	N			
D		E				I		H		T		G		T
B	A	C	K	I	S	S	U	E		I	R	A	T	E
A		A		M		D		D		O		M		N
L	O	N	G	A	G	O		O	M	N	I	B	U	S
L		O		G		M		G		A		I		E
S	W	E	D	E	N		I	S	O	L	A	T	E	D

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	9	3	1	7	5	4	8	6
7	5	8	2	4	6	1	3	9
1	6	4	9	8	3	2	7	5
3	1	2	6	9	7	5	4	8
6	8	7	5	2	4	9	1	3
5	4	9	3	1	8	6	2	7
8	7	1	4	5	9	3	6	2
4	3	5	8	6	2	7	9	1
9	2	6	7	3	1	8	5	4

FAITH

Guru Nanak's message

The contribution of Guru Nanak, the first Guru of the Sikhs, to the realm of faith is immeasurable. He had a simple, efficacious and profound approach to God, where faith and virtuous living go hand in hand, said Prof. Kumool Abbi.

Born on November 5, 1469 in Nankana Sahib, after his divine revelation, he composed the *Jaapji Sahib*. In it, he teaches about the one creator *ek*, the true name *satnaam*, the *kartapurakh* the doer, *nirbhau* fearless, *nirvair* without enemies. Guru Nanak's central teaching is that of *naam simran* or reciting the name of the beloved lord.

The divinely inspired Guru's scintillating *Bani* includes, The *Japuji Sahib, Asa di Vaar, Sidh Goshti* and almost 900 *shabads* which are a part of the Shri Guru Granth Sahibji. The central teaching of his sonorous *Bani* reflects a delight and joy in being able to yearn for God, to love Him with one's heart and soul and strive to have union with Him, leading to delight and bliss. Such bhakti mitigates dullness and helps one overcome ennui by revitalising the soul. Nanak's *Bani* helps one in times of suffering, dams unwanted desire and vices.

Guru Purab's teachings reassure and proclaim that just as he has attained the Lord, all of us shall too. He avers that God resides in all, regardless of their station in life, and that all are born to adore and love Him.

Guru Nanak teaches one to lead a harmonious life, guided by truth and righteousness. He emphasised the importance of *naam simran* on a regular basis. While reciting the *naam* of the lord, he also stressed upon *kirat karo*, which is, leading an honest livelihood through hard work.

INBRIEF

Adani Enterprises Q2 PAT surges 84% to ₹3,199 crore

Adani Enterprises Ltd. (AEL) the holding company of Adani Group, reported an 84% growth in consolidated Q2 net profit to ₹3,199 crore compared with ₹1,742 crore in the year earlier. Total income dropped 6% Year on Year (YoY) to ₹21,844 crore. The company's board approved a rights issue of ₹25,000 crore for strengthening its balance sheet further to support the next phase of incubation.

M&M Q2 net profit rises 16% to ₹3,673 cr., revenue up 22%

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) for the second quarter ended September 30, 2025 reported 16% growth in consolidated net profit at ₹3,673 crore compared with ₹3,171 crore in the year earlier, backed by strong operating performance across businesses. Consolidated revenue for the quarter grew 22% year on year (YoY) to ₹46,106 crore. Auto and Farm divisions continued to deliver on growth and margins.

IndiGo's Q2 net loss widens to ₹2,582 crore

IndiGo reported a net loss of ₹2,582 crore for the second quarter of FY2026, widening 161% from ₹986 crore in the same period last year. The widening of losses was attributed partly to currency fluctuations. Total income for the quarter ended September 2025 was ₹19,599 crore, an increase of 10.4% over the same period last year. Total expenses were ₹22,081 crore, an increase of 18.3% over the same quarter last year.

Gopichand Hinduja, who turned around ailing Ashok Leyland, dies

Press Trust of India
LONDON

Gopichand P. Hinduja, the head of Britain's richest family, who was named as an accused in the Bofors scam with his two brothers, died in London at the age of 85.

Fondly known as 'GP' in business circles, Mr. Gopichand was unwell for the past few weeks and died in a London hospital, sources close to his family said.

Born in 1940, Gopichand was the second of the four Hinduja brothers who built the group into a global conglomerate, spanning automotive, energy, banking, and infrastructure.

After the death of his elder brother Srichand Hinduja in 2023, he took charge as the chairman of the 35 billion pound Hinduja Group.

He is survived by his wife, Sunita, sons Sanjay and Dheeraj, and daughter, Rita.

A graduate of Jai Hind College, Mumbai (1959), Mr. Gopichand began his career in the family's trading business in Tehran before expanding its reach across continents.

Under his leadership, the group acquired Gulf Oil in 1984, closely followed by the acquisition of the then-struggling Indian automotive manufacturer, Ashok Leyland, in 1987, which was the first major NRI investment in India.

Mistry parts ways with Tata Trusts

Since Mr. Tata's death, Tata Trusts' trustees have been at odds internally, primarily over board representations and control of the holding firm

Raghuvir Srinivasan
Janaki Krishnan
CHENNAI/MUMBAI

Mehli Mistry, ex-trustee of Tata Trusts who was voted out by a majority of trustees last week, has signalled his decision to move on from the controversy.

In a letter to the chair of the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and Bhai Hirabai JN Tata Navsari Charitable Institution Trust, which is with *businessline*, Mr. Mistry said he was writing to 'put the quietus on speculative news reports that do not serve the interests of the Tata Trusts and are inimical to its vision.'

Stating his commitment to Mr. Ratan Tata's vision includes "a responsibility to ensure Tata Trusts are not plunged into controversy," he said, "precipitating matters would cause irreparable harm to the reputation of Tata Trusts".

As per Mr. Mistry, Mr. Ratan Tata always put public interest before his own. In discharging duties as a trustee, he was guided by "his (Mr.Tata's) vision of ethical governance, quiet philanthropy and utmost integrity."

Hoping actions of other trustees, going forward, will be guided by the "principles of transparency, good governance and the public interest", he ended with a quote from Mr. Tata that nobody is bigger than the institution. There was no response from Mr. Mistry and the office of Noel Tata to emails seeking clarification.

Since the death of Mr. Tata last year, trustees on the board of Tata Trusts, owning two-thirds of Tata Sons, have been at odds internally, primarily over board representations and control of the holding firm. It led to a showdown last week when Mr. Mistry, whose term as a trustee ended on October 28, was voted out by a majority led by Mr. Noel Tata. Mr. Mistry was a close friend and a confidante of Mr. Ratan Tata and one of the executors of his will.

(The writers are with The Hindu businessline)

MEHLI K MISTRY

Bakhtavar,
Shahid Bhagat Singh Road,
Colaba, Mumbai - 400 005. India.

4th November 2025

To,
The Chairperson
(i) Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT);
(ii) Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT);
(iii) Bai Hirabai J.N. Tata Navsari Charitable Institution Trust (BHJTNCIT).

Dear Chair,

It has been my privilege to serve as a Trustee, an opportunity granted through the personal endorsement of the late Mr. Ratan N Tata, my dearest friend and mentor, with the confidence that I would remain committed to his ideals.

However, I have been made aware of the recent reportage surrounding my trusteeship in the Tata Trusts, upon my return to Mumbai last night. I believe that this letter should assist in putting the quietus on speculative news reports that do not serve the interests of the Tata Trusts and are inimical to its vision.

The Tata Trusts have been synonymous with integrity and service to the nation. It has been my privilege to serve as a Trustee till 28-10-2025, an honour bestowed upon me by Mr. Ratan N. Tata. In discharging my duties towards the Tata Trusts, I have been guided by his vision of ethical governance, quiet philanthropy and utmost integrity.

My commitment to Mr. Ratan N Tata's vision includes a responsibility to ensure that the Tata Trusts are not plunged into controversy. I believe that precipitating matters would cause irreparable harm to the reputation of the Tata Trusts. Therefore, in the spirit of Mr. Ratan N. Tata, who always put public interest before his own, I hope that the actions of the other trustees going forward will be guided by the principles of transparency, good governance, and public interest.

I part ways with a quote that Mr. Ratan N. Tata used to say to me, *"Nobody is bigger than the institution it serves."*

Your sincerely

MEHLI K. MISTRY

CC:

To all the Trustees

Will urge Centre to recalculate AGR dues, says Vittal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel Ltd. said it will urge the Centre to revise its adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues, after the Supreme Court gave Vodafone Idea Ltd. flexibility in obtaining relief for the period from 2016-17 onwards.

"We've always said the AGR judgment – we sought reviews around calculation errors, [and having lost that] was a disappointment for us," Airtel India MD and CEO Gopal Vittal said replying to questions at the firm's quarterly results call with investors.

"We are pleased that this [the dues] has been allowed for reconciliation by the court," Mr. Vittal said.

"We are now going to be taking it one step at a time. First, we're going to reach out to the government, and this is something the company will do over the course of the coming days, we will take it from there." Mr. Vittal did not say whether the firm would approach the Court again.

Mr. Vittal said in the "next five to six years," the home broadband industry would double to 100 million homes and the firm was keen on taking advantage of the growth. The firm would seek to attract high value users to postpaid plans. "Our focus is to upgrade 90 million credit scored potential customers to our postpaid services."

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	83,459	-0.62
US Dollar	88.70	0.07
Gold	1,24,100	-0.95
Brent oil	64.59	-0.95

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2419.80	-47.20
Adani Ports	1444.40	-0.30
Apollo Hosp	7810.50	-14.00
Asian Paints	2486.70	-25.50
Axis Bank	1226.60	-7.10
Bajaj Auto	8751.00	-171.50
Bajaj Finserv	2073.20	-8.40
Bajaj Finance	1057.00	13.90
Bharat Elec	415.15	-7.15
Bharti Airtel	2113.30	39.30
Cipla	1503.30	-8.20
Coal India	377.55	-11.00
Dr Reddys Lab	1200.00	4.00
Tata Motors CV	260.75	0.00
Eicher Motors	6930.00	-93.50
Eternal Ltd.	313.50	-9.10
Grasim Ind	2882.00	-17.90
HCL Tech	1529.10	-14.40
HDFC Bank	985.25	-7.40
HDFC Life	742.45	6.45
Hindalco	831.40	-15.80
Hind Unilever	2445.70	-14.30
ICICI Bank	1336.90	-9.50
IntGlobeAvi	5637.00	-58.50
Infosys	1467.90	-17.60
ITC	408.90	-5.05
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	301.90	-4.90
JSW Steel	1181.40	-13.60
Kotak Bank	2096.60	-16.90
L&T	3924.40	-56.10
M&M	3581.20	32.30
Maruti Suzuki	15374.00	-277.00
Max Healthcare	1138.40	-7.50
NestleIndia	1265.00	-1.70
NTPC	330.60	-4.60
ONGC	252.35	-5.20
PowerGrid Corp	279.05	-8.95
Reliance Ind	1473.10	-11.60
SBI Life	1971.50	1.90
State Bank	957.60	7.90
Shriram Finance Ltd.	796.50	0.05
Sun Pharma	1690.00	-16.40
TataConsumerProduct	1179.30	-18.20
Tata Steel	179.29	-3.38
TCS	2990.20	-26.60
Tech Mahindra	1409.20	-10.60
Titan	3813.50	89.00
Tata Motors PV	406.50	-10.50
Trent Ltd.	4660.60	-52.80
UltraTech Cement	11819.00	-131.00
Wipro	237.92	-2.58

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	88.50	88.83
Euro	101.70	102.09
British Pound	115.59	116.05
Japanese Yen (100)	57.64	57.87
Chinese Yuan	12.42	12.48
Swiss Franc	109.33	109.80
Singapore Dollar	67.74	68.01
Canadian Dollar	62.84	63.11
Malaysian Ringitt	21.06	21.19
Australian Dollar	57.47	57.69

Source:Indian Bank

India can be a beacon of how AI can be used for social good: OpenAI official

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

OpenAI, a San Francisco-based AI research and deployment firm that created ChatGPT, has introduced IndQA, a new benchmark for evaluating AI systems on Indian culture and languages, here on Tuesday.

The company said its mission was to make AGI (Artificial General Intelligence) benefit all of humanity, across languages and cultures. Some 80% of people worldwide do not speak English as their primary language and yet most existing benchmarks that measure non-English language capabilities fell short, the firm noted.

That means, existing multilingual benchmarks like MMMLU are now saturated, which make them less useful for measuring real progress.

The company said its mission was to make AGI benefit all.

In addition, current benchmarks mostly focus on translation or multiple-choice tasks. They don't adequately capture what rally matters for evaluating an AI system's language capabilities – understanding context, culture, history, and things that matter to people where they live.

That's why IndQA, a new benchmark designed to evaluate how well AI models understand and reason questions that matter in Indian languages, across cultural domains.

"Today, we are rolling out IndQA. Built in collaboration with 261 experts across 12 languages, IndQA fills a key gap by enabling fair and rigorous evaluation that reflects India's cultural and linguistic diversity," said Srinivas Narayanan, CTO, B2B Application, OpenAI .

IMFA to buy Tata Steel's Odisha unit for ₹610 crore

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Provider of raw material for stainless steel, India Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd (IMFA) informed Tuesday that it would acquire Tata Steel's ferro chrome plant in Kalinganagar town of Odisha for ₹610 crore.

The acquisition would add 99 mega volt amperes (MVA) of furnace capacity. This is inclusive of 66 MVA existing capacity and 33 MVA under construction, cumulating to a total capacity exceeding 0.5 million tonne.

Ferrochrome is an alloy of chromium and is a crucial raw material for production of stainless steel. Globally, China and South Africa are leading producers of the input.

SBI Q2 net increases 10% to ₹20,160 crore

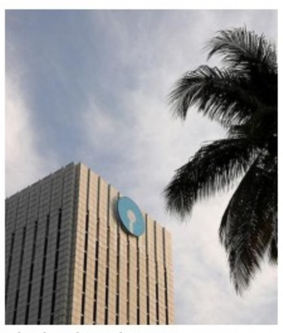
Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest public sector lender, reported a 10% year-on-year (YoY) rise in net profit to ₹20,160 crore for the second quarter ended September 30, backed by gains via Yes Bank stake sale and better asset quality.

Recently, the bank had sold 13.18% stake in Yes Bank, making a profit of ₹4,593 crore and this exceptional item sharply boosted the net profit.

Net interest income (NII) for the quarter increased by 3.28% YoY.

The bank's domestic net interest margin (NIM) for Q2 FY26 stood lower at 3.09% from 3.27% a year ago. While the bank's advances saw a growth of 12.73% YoY, deposits grew 9.27% YoY.


The bank's advances saw a growth of 12.73% YoY.

Gross non-performing assets (NPA) ratio at 1.73% improved by 40 bps YoY. Net NPA ratio at 0.42% improved by 11 bps YoY.

SEBI's Pandey bats for cybersecurity

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairperson Tuhin Kanta Pandey on Tuesday stressed the need for cybersecurity besides focusing on compliance.

Citing the introduction of a framework to facilitate safer participation of retail investors in algorithmic trading, Mr. Pandey, speaking at an event, said: "Cybersecurity remains a foremost concern for all market participants. Firms must safeguard sensitive client data and critical infrastructure from sophisticated threats. Third party and outsourcing risks have grown with greater reliance on technology vendors and service providers, requiring stronger oversight and due diligence."

He also said, "Investor protection and market integrity must translate into real-world discourse. Investor protection simply means the investor gets timely, accurate, understandable information. Investor's assets are securely segregated from others. The intermediary acts in the interest of the investor... avoiding unfair practices. And when things go wrong, the investor has access to redress.

"Similarly, market integrity means transparent transactions, no hidden cost, no preferential access, no manipulation."

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Fax: 91 490 2355880,Email: mcctly@gmail.com, Web: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in
540/MCC/3107/2025/E3/GAD 03/11/2025
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Scale of pay –101500-167400, Level 12of 7th CPC
Online Applications are invited for the aforementioned post on permanent basis. The last date for submitting online applications are 30/11/2025 5PM.
Details are available in www.mcc.kerala.gov.in Sd/- Director

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUPATI
MARKETING DEPARTMENT **e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**
e-Tenders are invited for procurement and supply the items (1) 22,000 Kgs of Ground Nut Seeds & (2) 3,600 Kgs of Instant Coffee-Chicory Mixture to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams,. For Tender notice and tender details log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** For further details contact phone numbers: **0877-2264079, 2264555, FAX No: 0877-2264554.**
TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.275) Date:04-11-2025 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer (Project) PHED Bharatpur
E-mail :- aceproj.bha.phed@rajasthan.gov.in, acepbpr@gmail.com
Notice Inviting Bid No. 04/2024-25 & 05/2024-25, Corrigendum No. 10
Due to unavoidable circumstances bid submission date of this office NIT no. 04/2024-25 & 05/2024-25 has extended and last date of submission has been made as date 29.12.2025. Other terms and conditions will remain as per Tender Documents.
NIT 04/2025-25 UBN No: PHE2425WLOB07192 NIB Code: PHE2425A3390
NIT 05/2025-25 UBN No: PHE2425WLOB07193 NIB Code: PHE2425A3391
(Surendra Sharma) Addl. Chief Engineer (P) PHED Bharatpur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/15801/2025

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer (Project) PHED Bharatpur
E mail :- aceproj.bha.phed@rajasthan.gov.in, acepbpr@gmail.com
Notice Inviting Bid No. 06/2024-25, Corrigendum No. 11
Due to unavoidable circumstances bid submission date of this office NIT no. 06/2024-25 has extended and last date of submission has been made as date **29.12.2025**. Other terms and conditions will remain as per Tender Documents.
UBN No: PHE2425WLOB07194
NIB Code: PHE2425A3392
(Surendra Sharma) Addl. Chief Engineer (P) PHED Bharatpur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/15802/2025

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (PROJECT) PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, BHARATPUR
Chamba Head Works Mallah Road, Bharatpur (321001)
E-mail :- aceproj.bha.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
Notice Inviting Bid No. 03/2024-25
Corrigendum No. 11
Due to unavoidable circumstances bid submission date of this office NIT no. 03/2024-25 (Kaliteer Water Supply Project) has extended and last date of submission has been made as date 29.12.2025. Other terms and conditions as per Tender Documents.
UBN No.: PHE2425WLOB07189
NIB Code: PHE2425A3388
(Surendra Sharma) Addl. Chief Engineer (P) PHED Bharatpur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/15799/2025

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (PROJECT)
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, BHARATPUR
Chambal Head Works Mallah Road, Bharatpur (321001)
E-mail:-aceproj.bha.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
Notice Inviting Bid No. 07, 08 & 09/2024-25
Corrigendum No. 07
Due to unavoidable circumstances bid submission date of this office NIT no. 07/2024-25, 08/2024-25 & 09/2024-25 has extended and last date of submission has been made as date **29.12.2025**. Other terms and conditions will remain as per Tender Document.
UBN No: NIT 07/2024-25: PHE2425WLOB07196 (NIB Code: PHE2425A3393)
NIT 08/2024-25: PHE2425WLOB07199 (NIB Code: PHE2425A3394)
NIT 09/2024-25: PHE2425WLOB07201 (NIB Code: PHE2425A3395)
(Surendra Sharma) Addl. Chief Engineer (P) PHED Bharatpur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/15803/2025

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AURANGABAD
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Campus, Aurangabad – 431004 (MH)
Website: www.nielit.gov.in/aurangabad, Phone: 0240 2982021, 2982022
Walk-In-interview
Applications are invited for empanelment of candidates for the following positions on contract basis for various Projects:

Sl. No.	Position	Nos.	Date of Interview
01	Project Associate-1	02	13-11-2025
02	Project Faculty	02	13-11-2025
03	Assistant Professor (IT)	02	13-11-2025
04	Assistant Professor (Physics/Maths)	01	13-11-2025
05	Assistant Professor (English)	01	13-11-2025
06	Project Engineer (IoT)	02	14-11-2025
07	Project Engineer (3D Printing)	01	14-11-2025
08	Project Engineer (Drone/UAV)	01	14-11-2025
09	Lab Engineer	02	14-11-2025
10	Technician (Electrical)	01	14-11-2025

Interested candidates are advised to refer to the URL: http://nielit.gov.in/aurangabad for eligibility, terms and conditions, application form, etc. Eligible candidates shall bring in filled-in Application Form and other relevant documents on the day of the walk-in interview.
No.01/NIELIT-A/2025/02 **Executive Director**

GENEVA

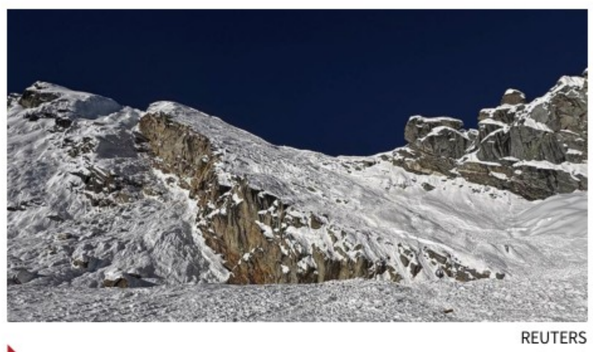
Sudan urges world to turn the screw on UAE over war weapons

AFP

The Sudanese ambassador to the UN Hassan Hamid urged the international community on Tuesday to pile the pressure on the United Arab Emirates, accusing it of propping up the paramilitaries in Sudan's devastating war. The supplier of arms to the RSF "is very well known. Unfortunately, it is the UAE," he said in Geneva. AFP

KATHMANDU

Ferocious snowstorms, avalanche kill nine in Nepal's Himalayas



REUTERS

Ferocious snowstorms and an avalanche in Nepal's Himalayas killed nine, including five Italians, officials said on Tuesday. Seven died at Yalung Ri base camp after an avalanche hit climbers, while two Italians perished on Panbari mountain. Rescuers airlifted survivors to Kathmandu as heavy snow hampered expeditions. AFP

KARACHI

Security forces kill four militants in Pakistan's Balochistan province

AFP

Security forces in Pakistan's Balochistan province killed four militants in an intelligence-based operation in Kalat district on November 1. Weapons were seized, and sanitisation efforts in the area are under way. President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif praised the operation. PTI

DAKAR

Cameroon security forces killed 48 in election protests, say UN sources

REUTERS

Cameroon's security forces killed 48 civilians as they responded to protests against the re-election of President Paul Biya, according to data shared by two UN sources. The majority of the victims were killed by live rounds although several died from wounds sustained when they were beaten with batons, they added. REUTERS

Ukraine drones reach deep inside Russia as fight for key city rages on

Russian forces continue to advance in the Pokrovsk direction and appear to be operating with increasing comfort within the city, according to ISW; Moscow said its troops are tightening their encirclement of Ukrainian forces in the region

Associated Press
Reuters
MOSCOW

Critical hit: Long-range drones An-196 Liutyi of the Ukrainian 14th Separate Unmanned Aerial Systems Regiment stand in line before takeoff in Ukraine. AP

Ukrainian long-range drones attacked an industrial plant around 1,300 km inside Russia, local officials said on Tuesday, while Ukraine's army remained locked in an intense battle to hold back a Russian push on the key city of Pokrovsk in the eastern Donetsk region.

Two drones targeted an industrial facility in Sterlitamak, a city in Russia's Bashkortostan region, regional Governor Radiy Habirov said in an online statement. He did not specify what facility was targeted but he said that both drones were shot down. There were no casualties, and the facility was operating normally, he said.

Meanwhile, the city administration reported an explosion at the Sterlitamak Petrochemical Plant caused the plant's water treatment facility to partially collapse, adding that the cause of the explosion was not known. The plant, which makes rubber and aviation fuel, is not known to have been attacked before.

Explosions were also heard at an industrial area of the Nizhny Novgorod region, some 800 km from Ukraine, where an oil refinery and a petrochemical plant are located, Russian media reported.

Ukrainian officials said Russia bombarded the southeastern Dnipropetrovsk region with drones, missiles and artillery overnight, killing one person and injuring 11 others, including two children.

Russia fired seven missiles of various types and 130 strike and decoy drones at Ukraine during the night, Ukraine's air force said.

Also, Romania said on Tuesday that Russia carried out two overnight attacks on Ukraine's Danube port infrastructure, close to the border with the NATO member country.

On the battlefield, Russia and Ukraine are fiercely contesting control of Pokrovsk, a Ukrainian stronghold in the Donetsk region that Moscow's forces have been trying to capture for more than a year.

Russia has in recent months intensified its efforts in the area and has claimed its troops are making progress.

"Russian forces continue to advance in the Pokrovsk direction and appear to be operating with increasing comfort within Pokrovsk itself," the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington think tank, said late Monday.

Russia said on Tuesday that its forces were tightening their encirclement of Ukrainian troops in Pokrovsk.

With fighting raging in the streets of the ruined city, the Russian Defence Ministry said its soldiers had cleared 35 buildings of Ukrainian troops.

It said Russian forces were also squeezing surrounded Ukrainian troops near the town of Kupiansk in the Kharkiv region.

DeepState, a Ukrainian project that maps the front line based on verified open source images, on Tuesday showed that Russian forces had pushed further into Pokrovsk and its environs.

Dick Cheney, architect of Iraq invasion, dies at 84

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Substantial impact: As 46th Vice President, Dick Cheney served for two terms between 2001 and 2009. REUTERS

Dick Cheney, who became one of the most powerful Vice Presidents in United States history as George W. Bush's number two during 9/11 and catastrophic wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, died on Monday.

He was 84.

Cheney forged an unusually muscular job in the traditionally inconsequential role and was seen by many as a major power behind the throne, as Mr. Bush thrust America into the so-called war on terror, with a dark underbelly of renditions, torture and the controversial Guantanamo prison site.

A hate-figure to many on the left, he made a remarkable pivot toward the end of his life when he opposed Donald Trump's ultimately successful campaign to return to the White House in 2024.

Cheney's daughter Liz Cheney, a former congresswoman from Wyoming, said her deeply Republican father had voted for Mr. Trump's Democratic opponent Kamala Harris.

Cheney, also a former congressman and defence secretary, "died due to complications of pneumonia and cardiac and vascular disease," according to a family statement cited by U.S. media.

"For decades, Dick Cheney served our nation, including as White House Chief of Staff, Wyoming's Congressman, Secretary of Defense, and Vice President of the United States," it said.

As 46th Vice President, Cheney served for two terms between 2001 and 2009.

Aggressive notion

The job is often something of a frustrating experience for ambitious politicians, but Cheney's Machiavellian skills gave him considerable influence behind the scenes.

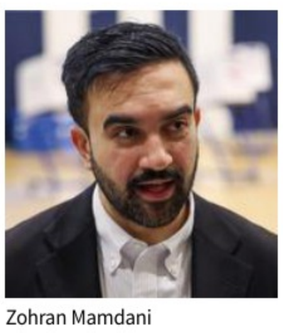
He helped usher in an aggressive notion of executive power, believing the President should be able to operate almost unfettered by lawmakers or the courts, particularly during wartime. It was an approach that saw Mr. Bush enter military quagmires in Afghanistan and Iraq and prompt major controversy over his impact on civil liberties.

Born in Lincoln, Nebraska, on January 30, 1941, Cheney grew up mostly in the sparsely populated western state of Wyoming.

Cheney is widely seen as one of the driving forces behind the decision to invade Iraq in 2003 following the September 11, 2001 attacks by al-Qaeda on New York and Washington.

Mamdani, Cuomo face off as New York chooses new mayor

Associated Press
NEW YORK



Zohran Mamdani

New York City's voters are deciding the outcome of a generational and ideological divide that will resonate across the country on Tuesday as they choose the next mayor to run the nation's largest city.

Zohran Mamdani, who won the Democratic primary earlier this year, faces former Governor Andrew Cuomo, who is running as an Independent, and perennial Republican candidate Curtis Sliwa, who is trying to land a massive upset.

A victory for Mr. Mamdani would give the city its first Muslim mayor and its youngest leader in generations, while elevating the democratic socialist to political stardom and giving his brand of economic populism one of the most visible political perches in America.

If Mr. Cuomo comes out on top, he will have staged a remarkable political comeback four years after resigning as Governor over a barrage of sexual harassment allegations.

For Mr. Sliwa – the creator of the Guardian Angels crime patrol group and a long-time New York tabloid fixture – a win would put a Republican in charge of the nation's largest city at a time when many New Yorkers are seeking a leader who can keep President Donald Trump at bay.

The race has made Mr. Mamdani a national figure as he has drawn the ire of Mr. Trump and other Republicans, who have tried to cast him as the face of a new, more radical Democratic Party. Mr. Trump has also threatened to take over the city if Mr. Mamdani wins, as well as arrest and deport the state assemblymember, who was born in Uganda but is a U.S. citizen. Mr. Trump reluctantly endorsed Mr. Cuomo on the eve of the election, saying Mr. Mamdani would bring "disaster" to the city and encouraging Mr. Sliwa backers to vote for the former Governor instead.

Tuesday's general election is being conducted as a traditional one, meaning the candidate who gets the most votes wins.

China puts 5 members of Myanmar gang to death

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China sentenced five people to death on Tuesday for their involvement in a violent criminal gang with fraud operations in Myanmar's Kokang region along the border, *Xinhua* said.

Scam compounds have flourished in Myanmar's lawless borderlands, staffed by foreigners – many of them Chinese – who often say they were trafficked and forced to swindle people online, part of a multibillion-dollar illicit industry.

Pakistan govt. plans to amend its Constitution

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan government on Tuesday said it will introduce a new constitutional amendment, sparking fear that it may curtail the powers of the provinces.

The confirmation came from Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar after speculation regarding the tweaks in the Constitution following a tweet by Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) chief Bilawal Bhutto Zardari that the government approached him for support for the 27th amendment.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PWD CIRCLE KOTA
No. 2320 Date:- 28.10.2025

Short Term Notice Inviting Bid
(NIT No. 12/2025-26)

Bid for Permanent restoration of Roads in Distt. Kota (06 Works) is Invited from interested bidders upto 06.00 PM of 12.11.2025 (Wednesday). Other Particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rj.nic.in) of the Rajasthan State.
The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2227.92 Lacs.
UBN No. PWD2526WSOB15670, UBN No. PWD2526WSOB15671
UBN No. PWD2526WSOB15672, UBN No. PWD2526WSOB15673
UBN No. PWD2526WSOB15674, UBN No. PWD2526WSOB15676

(J.P. Gupta)
Superintending Engineer
P.W.D. Circle Kota
DIPR/C/16076/2025

NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICAL SCIENCES
(Autonomous body of the M/o. Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
NAMS Building, Medical Enclave, Ansari Nagar
New Delhi – 110029

NEET-SS 2025

NOTICE

National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) shall conduct the **NEET-SS 2025** on **26.12.2025 & 27.12.2025.**

The online applications are being invited from **05.11.2025 (03:00PM onwards) to 25.11.2025 (till 11:55 PM)** at NBEMS website :

https://natboard.edu.in/viewnbeexam?exam=neetss

Candidate Care Support: +91-7996165333
• Helpline Portal on applicant login page
• Communication Web Portal on NBEMS Website

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JUST REWARD

Smriti, Jemimah and Deepti in ICC Team of the Tournament

R.V. MOORTHY

India's Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues and Deepti Sharma made it to the ICC Women's ODI WC Team of the Tournament. **The team:** Smriti (Ind), Wolvaardt (Capt., SA), Jemimah (Ind), Kapp (SA), Gardner (Aus), Deepti (Ind), Sutherland (Aus), de Klerk (SA), Sidra (Pak), King (Aus), Ecclestone (Eng). **12th player:** Sciver-Brunt (Eng).

ODI RANKINGS

Wolvaardt overtakes Smriti as numero uno; Jemimah in top-10

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Smriti Mandhana dropped a rung to second, but Jemimah Rodrigues scaled nine positions to be 10th in the latest ICC women's ODI rankings. South Africa captain Laura Wolvaardt moved up two positions to No. 1. Marizanne Kapp gained two spots and is second only to Sophie Ecclestone among the bowlers.

DESIGNATED ROLE

My focus was on applying the finishing touches: Richa Ghosh

EMMANUAL YOGINI

My main job was to finish innings strongly by scoring quickly in the final overs. Whenever I got the chance to bat, my focus was on applying the finishing touches. I aimed to maintain a high strike rate and put pressure on the opposition bowlers. Scoring those extra runs gives us a better chance to win — India's Richa Ghosh.

RECOGNITION

Prime Minister Modi to felicitate Harmanpreet's team today

EMMANUAL YOGINI

India's triumphant Women's ODI World Cup squad will be felicitated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Wednesday evening. The team, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, boarded a flight to the capital on Tuesday afternoon after receiving an invitation from the Prime Minister's Office late on Monday.

Destiny's child — Shafali's final heroics and fairytale finish

The 21-year-old, with 87 runs and two crucial wickets to her credit, was the front and centre of India's 52-run triumph over South Africa; she was drafted into the squad ahead of the knockouts after a freak injury ruled out fellow opener Pratika

ODI WORLD CUP

Lavanya L
NAVI MUMBAI

For a while, the Women's ODI World Cup felt like the script of a film. A struggling hero is sent back to the drawing board to fix deficiencies, and suddenly, a call comes to deliver for the nation at the hardest stage of all – a World Cup.

This is Shafali Verma's reality. She led India to its first silverware for the women when she lifted the under-19 T20 World Cup trophy in South Africa in 2023. On Sunday, she was front and centre of a 52-run win over the Proteas in the summit clash, with a 78-ball 87 and two crucial wickets.

"God has sent me here to do something nice, just happy I could make the team win," Shafali said after the win.

At 21 years and 278 days, Shafali is the youngest to win the Player-of-the-Match award at a Women's World Cup final.

Shafali, who was out of the Indian ODI set-up for a year, was playing the Senior Women's T20 Trophy. A freak fracture to Pratika Rawal opened the door for Shafali's return.

Captain's delight: Shafali emerged Harmanpreet's trump card with both bat and ball. EMMANUAL YOGINI

More than her half-century, her first in ODIs since 2022, it was her instant impact with the ball that left the Proteas stunned.

"When Shafali joined the team, we were missing the overs from Pratika. Shafali has been bowling a lot in domestic cricket. When Amol (Muzumdar) sir spoke to her, she said: 'I'm ready for 10 overs,'" skipper Harmanpreet Kaur said after the game.

"I didn't want to go back to the room, thinking why I didn't try. Those back-to-back wickets [of Sune Luus and Marizanne Kapp] were a turning point for us," she added.

Coach Muzumdar has always maintained that Shafali was never out of the ODI scheme of things. "If you look at it positively, a player as good as Shafali not finding a place in the 15 is such a good sign," he said.

"It's all destiny. When Pratika got injured, we were all gutted. This team prays for each other, stays together through ups and downs. First Yastika Bhatia and then Pratika. When Shafali came, we didn't want her to feel that she came in under an injury cloud. Everybody was so positive. Everyone was thinking that our end goal was this trophy, and we worked day and night. This is the result," Harmanpreet added.

Richa Ghosh — a journey of grit, guts and glory

Santadeep Dey
AGARTALA

Five fours and four sixes from two games – these stats of that of an explosive middle-order batter won't really make one sit up and take notice. But garnish the matter with some context, and it would tell us a gripping story of grit, perseverance, and determination.

Richa Ghosh contributed 235 runs in eight innings at a strike rate of 133.52 in India's victorious run at the recently concluded Women's ODI World Cup. But unbeknownst to many, 60 of those runs, including the aforementioned nine boundaries, came in the knockouts while Richa was battling through a throbbing pain in her finger.

"The middle finger of her left hand had a hairline fracture ahead of the semi-final, yet she batted through it. She endured that pain, and that tells us about her immense mental strength," revealed Shib Shankar Paul, Richa's senior Bengal team coach.

Richa sustained the injury while collecting a Renuka Singh delivery behind the stumps during the game against New Zealand.

Shib Shankar, lovingly called Maco *da* in Bengal cricketing circles, started training Richa when she was 13. Since then, he says he has brought her up like "my own daughter."

Endurance: Richa displayed nerves of steel as she fought through pain in the ultimate clash. EMMANUAL YOGINI

On Monday, the current Bengal men's fast-bowling coach was seen on a video call with Richa right after stumps at a Ranji Trophy game in Agartala.

After the call, Shib Shankar shared a bit of how their own conversation went while he was climbing up the stairs of the Maharaja Bir Bikram Stadium.

"I congratulated her. Of course, she hasn't slept the entire night. None of the other team members have. It has been a long wait of 52 years.

"This moment won't come back. It's a different feeling altogether... celebrations are in order, obviously, once she is back".

Asia Cup controversy: Pakistan pacer Rauf gets two-match ban

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pakistan pacer Haris Rauf has received a two-match ban for breaching the International Cricket Council's Code of Conduct twice during the Asia Cup in the United Arab Emirates in September.

As a result, Rauf had to miss Pakistan's first ODI against South Africa in Faisalabad on Tuesday. The 31-year-old is also unavailable for selection for the second ODI of the three-match series on Thursday.

Rauf was found guilty of breaching Article 2.21 of the Code of Conduct, which relates to action that brings the game into disrepute, in the Super Four match against India on September 21 as well as in the final on September 28.

In a fractious tournament that saw several controversies involving the archrival, Rauf had depicted the downing of aircraft in seeming reference to the military conflict between the countries in May when he was fielding at the boundary in the September 21 clash.

While this led to Rauf being fined 30% of his match fee and receiving two demerit points, another breach in the final resulted in a total of four demerit points within a 24-month period.

Rauf... getting into trouble. FILE PHOTO

Suryakumar fined

India's T20I skipper Suryakumar Yadav, meanwhile, was fined 30% of his match fee and received two demerit points after being found guilty of a breach.

Jasprit Bumrah received one demerit point for his offence.

Arjun registers win; Gukesh and Praggnanandhaa held

CHESS WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

Fans queued up to have a look at the young superstars of Indian chess at Resort Rio here on Tuesday. That queue, to see the likes of D. Gukesh, R. Praggnanandhaa and Arjun Erigaisi, is getting longer, and longer, reflecting not just the newer heights they continue to scale, but the rapid increase in popularity of the mind game.

Among India's terrific trio, the top three seeds at the World Cup, only second-seeded Arjun was able to post a win. Top seed Gukesh and the No. 3 seed R. Praggnanandhaa had to settle for draws. That means, they have to win on Wednesday to advance to the third round without having to play the tie-breaker games.

On the top board, Gukesh, who had white pieces, was made to play 84 moves by Kazakhstan's Kazybek Nogerbek. The game, featuring a rook-and-minor-piece ending, went all the way, in fact, with just two kings remaining on the board.

On the third board, Praggnanandhaa, who was the runner-up in the last edition of the tournament, was held by Temur Kuybokarov of Australia, for whom it was an excellent result with black pieces. On the second board, however, white prevailed, with Arjun cruising to a 37-move victory over Bulgaria's Martin Petrov.

Honours even: Gukesh and Nogerbek played out a draw. FIDE

Arjun was the only one to get a win among the top seeds. Dutchman Anish Giri and American Wesley So, seeded fourth and fifth, were held by Bojan Maksimovic (Bosnia) and Titas Stremavicius (Lithuania).

Besides Arjun, V. Pranav was the only Indian to post a win on the day. He defeated Norway's Aryan Tari.

Important results (second round): D. Gukesh drew with Kazybek Nogerbek (Kaz); Martin Petrov (Bul) lost to Arjun Erigaisi; R. Praggnanandhaa drew with Temur Kuybokarov (Aus); Bojan Maksimovic (Bih) drew with Anish Giri (Ned); Wesley So (USA) drew with Titas Stremavicius (Lit); Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze) bt Grergely Kantor (Hun); Dennis Makhnev (Kaz) drew with Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb); Vladislav Kovalev (Blr) lost to Vincent Keymer (Ger); Wei Yi (Chn) bt Kacper Piorun (Pol); Lorenzo Lodici (Ita) drew with Hans Niemann (USA); Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra) bt Surya Shekhar Ganguly; Lorenzo Luis Supi (Bra) lost to Richard Rapport (Hun); Le Quang Liem (Vie) drew with Baadur Jobava (Geo); Levon Aronian (USA) bt Aronyak Ghosh; Lorenzo Lodici (Ita) drew with Hans Niemann (USA); Diptayan Ghosh drew with Ian Nepomniachtchi (Rus).

Vidit Gujrathi drew with Faustino Oro (Arg); Karthik Venkataraman drew with Aravindh Chithambaram; Stamatis Kourkoulos-Arditis (Gre) drew with Nihal Sarin; Aryan Tari (Nor) lost to V. Pranav; Rasmus Svane (Ger) drew with P. Harikrishna; Dmitrij Kollars (Ger) drew with M. Pranesh; Thai Dai Van Nguyen (Cze) drew with Pa. Iniyan; Pouya Idani (Ira) drew with Karthikeyan Murali.

Hope the youngsters will come and see their heroes: Anand

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

Viswanathan Anand believes the chess World Cup will inspire India's budding players. "Most top players when they were young went somewhere and saw someone and they thought they wanted one day to be like that," he said here on Tuesday, shortly before the second round of the World Cup got underway.

"We have lots of top Indians playing here and I hope the youngsters will come and see their heroes."

Anand, a former World Cup winner and now FIDE's deputy president, said the top three seeds – D. Gukesh, Arjun Erigaisi and R. Praggnanandhaa – were good enough to take the top three spots.

"There are a lot of older players who are motivated enough," he said.

"Levon Aronian has already been on the beach here for a week and he has clearly taken it very seriously. There is a wealth of talent in this competition. And as a tourist spot, it is wonderful that Goa is showcasing its ability to organise a large-scale event."

Goa's Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said the government would continue to support tournaments like the World Cup.

"This will help us bring a brighter future for sports in the country," he said.

"We have already hosted several important sports events in the last two or three years, in games like table tennis and beach volleybal," he added.

Teaming up: Anand with Goa Chief Minister Sawant. FIDE

SNAPSHOTS

Gauff beats Paolini

RIYADH: Coco Gauff registered a much-needed 6-3, 6-2 victory over Jasmine Paolini to keep her WTA Finals title defence alive here on Tuesday.

The American third seed had lost her opener to Jessica Pegula but was far more clinical against Paolini, who was eliminated.

The 21-year-old swept to a 3-0 lead and despite Paolini's attempts to make a comeback, the American took the opening set in 40 minutes. The second set was a straightforward affair as Gauff made two breaks of serve. "I thought I served smart and I don't think Jasmine was 100% today. I would like to wish her well. Playing both singles and doubles here is not easy."

In the second match of the day, World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka won a marathon against fifth-seeded Jessica Pegula 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.

Pakistan pips SA

FAISALABAD: Pakistan edged South Africa by two wickets and two balls to spare in the first ODI at the Iqbal Stadium on Tuesday.

The scores: South Africa 263 in 49.1 overs (Pretorius 57, de Kock 63, Breetzke 42, Bosch 41, Naseem 3/40, Abrar 3/53) lost to Pakistan 264/8 in 49.4 overs (Fakhar 45, Rizwan 55, Agha 62). **Toss:** Pakistan; **PoM:** Agha.

INBRIEF

Pakistan sacks Wasim as women's team head coach

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has removed national women's team head coach Mohammad Wasim in the wake of the side's disastrous campaign in the ODI World Cup. Pakistan finished last in the eight-team tournament co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka. Pakistan played all its matches in Colombo.

Moody appointed LSG's global director of cricket

IPL side Lucknow Super Giants on Tuesday appointed former Australia all-rounder Tom Moody as its global director of cricket for the upcoming season of the T20 league.

South Africa's Brevis out of Pakistan ODIs with injury

South Africa's depleted squad for the ODI series against Pakistan took another hit on Tuesday with Dewald Brevis sidelined due to a shoulder injury. CSA said the 22-year-old hurt his shoulder during the third T20I in Lahore on Saturday.

Rahul Pradhan scores century for Chhattisgarh

An unbeaten 107 by Rahul Pradhan (7x4, 1x6) propelled Chhattisgarh to 273 for seven in 94.5 overs in its second innings against Karnataka in the under-23 Col. C.K. Nayudu Trophy Elite match in Mysuru on Tuesday.

The scores: Chhattisgarh 303 in 83 overs & 273/7 in 94.5 overs (Rahul Pradhan 107 n.o., Pratham Jachak 43, Deepak Yadav 75, R. Dhanush Gowda 3/30) vs. Karnataka 212 in 79.1 overs.

Champions League schedule

FK Qarabag vs Chelsea; Pafos vs Villarreal *(both matches at 11.15 p.m., Wednesday).*

Ajax vs Galatasaray; Benfica vs Bayer Leverkusen; Club Brugge vs Barcelona; Inter Milan vs Kairat Almaty; Manchester City vs Borussia Dortmund; Marseille vs Atalanta; Newcastle United vs Athletic Club *(all matches at 1.30 a.m., Thursday).*

LIVE TELECAST

New Zealand vs West Indies: 1st T20I, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 11.45 a.m.

Chess World Cup: FIDE YouTube channel, 3 p.m.

Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 5 & LIV, 11.15 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Thursday).

Mohsin the hero as Karnataka scores an innings victory over Kerala

The offie's maiden five-wicket haul inflicts a demoralising defeat on the host; the last-wicket pair of Eden and Harikrishnan delays the inevitable

RANJI TROPHY

M.R. Praveen Chandran
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Karnataka's Ranji Trophy campaign was back on track after it crushed Kerala by an innings and 164 runs at the KCA Stadium, Mangalapuram, near here on Tuesday.

Right-arm off-spinner Mohsin Khan's maiden five-wicket haul (six for 29) inflicted a demoralising defeat on the host after pacer Vidwath Kaverappa struck telling blows with the new ball in the morning.

Mohsin's nagging accuracy and subtle variations of length proved to be more than a handful for the Kerala batters on a wicket of variable bounce. Last-man Eden Apple Tom (39 not out off 68 balls), who batted with an injured finger, and debutant M.U. Harikrishnan (six off 94 balls) delayed Karnataka's victory as the 10th-wicket stand consumed nearly 23 overs and added 44 runs.

On song: Mohsin celebrates with captain Mayank after picking up a wicket. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Kaverappa's double strike in his first over set the template for the win. The makeshift opener M.D. Nidheesh (nine) edged to Karun Nair in the slips and Akshay Chandran departed for a golden duck, bowled off an inswinger, as Kerala slipped to 19 for two.

Captain Mohammed Azharuddeen started positively, pulling Kaverappa over the square leg for a six and followed it up with a fluent cover drive for a boundary. But Azharuddeen (15) failed to ride the bounce from a Shikhar Shetty delivery and was snapped up by wicket-keeper Krishnan Shrijith.

Opener Krishna Prasad and Ahammed Imran figured in a 57-run stand for the fourth wicket, a brief period which raised hopes of a Kerala fightback. However, Mohsin dismissed both Krishna Prasad (33) and Imran (23) in quick succession to leave Kerala tottering at 106 for five.

B. Aparajith and Sachin Baby played the spinners with caution but Mohsin ended the partnership before it prospered. Mohsin foxed Baby (12) with a quicker delivery as the batter was bowled, trying to play a square cut off the back foot. Another quicker delivery breached Shoun Roger's defences to leave Kerala on the brink. However, the plucky show by the tailenders delayed the inevitable in the extended post-lunch session.

The scores: Karnataka — 1st innings: 586 for five decl.

Kerala — 1st innings: 238.

Kerala — 2nd innings: Krishna Prasad b Mohsin 33, M.D. Nidheesh c Karun b Kaverappa 9, Akshay Chandran b Kaverappa 0, Mohammed Azharuddeen c Shrijith b Shikhar 15, Ahammed Imran c & b Mohsin 23, B. Aparajith lbw b Mohsin 19, Sachin Baby b Mohsin 12, Shoun Roger b Mohsin 0, Hari Krishnan lbw b Mohsin 6, Vaisakh Chandran c Karun b Shreyas 4, Eden Apple Tom (not out) 39; Extras: (b-12, lb-12): 24; Total (in 79.3 overs): 184.

Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-19, 3-40, 4-97, 5-106, 6-130, 7-130, 8-135, 9-140.

Karnataka bowling: Kaverappa 13-4-28-2 Vyshak 10-3-27-0, Shikhar 13-2-32-1 Shreyas 20-7-44-1, Mohsin 23.3-14-29-6.

Skipper Mayank delighted with bonus-point win

M.R. Praveen Chandran
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Karnataka captain Mayank Agarwal was extremely pleased with his team pulling off an innings win over Kerala.

He praised pacer Vidwath Kaverappa for his game-changing spell and complimented the efforts of Karun Nair and R. Smaran for scoring double hundreds.

"It was a much-needed win for us. We have been playing well this season, and this was a perfect match for us. It was a good toss to win. The plan was to put up a big total on the board and bat out Kerala from the match.

"We expected the wicket to help the bowlers on the first day, especially in the first session. I must give credit to Kerala bowlers as they bowled really well and in good areas to put us under pressure. Karun and K.L. Shrijith had a century partnership for the third wicket, which was important in the context of the game.

Mayank.
FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

> We have been playing well this season, and this was a perfect match for us

"Smaran and Karun went on to make double hundreds, which helped us post a big total," he said.

"Kaverappa was outstanding. He put in a lot of effort and I really liked his attitude and was happy for him. We expected the wicket to start deteriorating from the third day. Mohsin Khan exploited the conditions well.

"The Kerala tail-enders batted well, but we failed to take the half-chances. Anyway, I am happy with the seven points and more importantly, it came in an away match," he said.

India's win has messages for parents, officials, and politicians

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

The Indian women's World Cup win was not just a sporting achievement, but a cultural one. It might turn out to be a political one too, but that will depend on societal changes and governmental attitudes.

The 2017 tournament saw the transition of Harmanpreet Kaur from player to legend. Her unbeaten 171 in the semifinal victory against Australia gave Indian women's cricket credence and self-confidence. Eight years later, it is fitting that the maiden triumph came under her captaincy. Harmanpreet, Deepti Sharma, Shafali Verma and the rest kept a country awake beyond midnight, and too excited to sleep thereafter. But no one is complaining.

The Prime Minister congratulated the team with "This historic win will motivate future champions to take up sports." Easily said, but not so easily done. Especially when out of the spotlight there are predators who, often with political backing, get away regularly. Hyperbole comes fast, but reality is slow to catch up. Parents already averse to having their daughters in sport will be discouraged if harassers go unpunished.

As Sakshi Malik, India's only woman wrestler to win an Olympic medal said after the protests against the Wrestling Federation boss, "This fight is not for India's female wrestlers. It is for the daughters of India whose voices have been silenced time and again."

A reference to the protests of 2023 might seem out of place in this celebration of the World champions. But women in sport have many battles to fight – at home, in society, among peers, against official apathy and shameless harassment – giving international success a special lustre. Many politicians and male cricketers now rushing to congratulate the team were strangely silent during those protests. This triumph has messages for parents, officials and politicians.

The Prime Minister is right in a sense. It will motivate future champions, just like the men's inaugural victory in 1983 (watched on television by 10-year-olds Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid) did. When the women's team that lost the 2017 final arrived back home, teenager Jemimah Rodrigues was at the airport to welcome them. Today she is one of the superstars.

The 2017 World Cup had a profound impact on women's cricket in India; 2025 might have a wider influence. The packed crowd, the shouts of *Jemi-Mah, Jemi-Mah* as India's semifinal hero walked out to bat indicate the revolution that began eight years ago led here.

In this period, the sport has seen more money come into it, greater professionalism and the certainty that it can be a career. The Board of Control for Cricket in India can take some of the credit for this, as well as for establishing the Women's Premier League. The change in the sporting culture of a nation is welcome if overdue.

But patriarchy and religious extremism will not give in easily. The case of the Australian cricketers molested on their way to a coffee shop in Indore is one aspect of this. Another is the trolling Jemimah was subjected to even after leading India's charge into the final. Simply because she is Christian, and there were fake stories about conversions. Jemimah will be remembered as a superstar of this World Cup, but rather than celebrating an Indian team with its diversity of religions, communities, geographical spread, the bigots chose to attack her.

It would be wonderful to hear our politicians and the Prime Minister himself let it be known publicly that they do not support any of this chauvinism. Jemimah displayed incredible bravery to go public with her anxiety issues after the semifinal, and had the courage to thank her Lord despite knowing what the reaction would be.

In some ways, women athletes have to work twice as hard as the men to get to the top. This makes them twice as sensitive and thus more likely to speak their minds on issues the men avoid. Till 2016, for example, skipper Harmanpreet's jersey number was 84, a tribute to those who were killed in the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. After the final, the players were happy to hand over the trophy to former captains Mithali Raj and Anjum Chopra, displaying both gratitude and a sense of continuity.

There is much our women cricketers can teach the men.

Sunderland draws with Everton, moves fourth

Agencies
LONDON

Sunderland came back from a goal down to draw with Everton 1-1 and move to fourth in the Premier League on Monday. The Black Cats moved level with Liverpool and Bournemouth and continued to confound doubters on a stirring return to top tier.

In Serie A, Genoa won its first game of the season, beating Sassuolo 2-1 with a last-gasp goal that lifted it off the bottom on Monday.

It was particularly rewarding for interim coach Roberto Murgita, who replaced Patrick Vieira after the former Arsenal and France midfielder was fired last week. Genoa rose to 18th in the 20-team table, one point ahead of Verona and two clear of last-placed Fiorentina. Sassuolo is in 11th place.

The results: Premier League: Sunderland 1 (Xhaka 46) drew with Everton 1 (Ndiaye 15).

Serie A: Sassuolo 1 (Berardi 47) lost to Genoa 2 (Malinovskyi 18, Ostigard 90+3); Lazio 2 (Isaksen 65, Zaccagni 90+1) bt Cagliari 0.

LaLiga: Real Oviedo 0 drew with Osasuna 0.

RANJI SCORES — ROUND 3 (FOURTH AND FINAL DAY)

Elite: Group A: Cuttack: Andhra 475/7 decl. bt Odisha 151 & 274 in 104.2 overs (Gourav Choudhury 80, Sandeep Pattnaik 63). **Points: Andhra 7(9), Odisha 0(1).**

Ranchi: Jharkhand 510/8 decl. bt Nagaland 154 & 160 in 57.4 overs (Rongsen Jonathan 50, Manishi 4/62, Anukul Roy 5/35). **Jharkhand 7(15), Nagaland 0(1).**

Vadodara: Baroda vs. Uttar Pradesh (match abandoned). **Baroda 1(8), UP 1(7).**

Coimbatore: Tamil Nadu 291 & 233/6 in 89 overs (S.R. Athish 46, B. Indrajith 77 n.o., Shahrukh Khan 40, Praful Hinge 4/60) drew with Vidarbha 501. **Vidarbha 3(13), TN 1(4).**

Group B: Nashik: Saurashtra 394/5 decl. in 101 overs (Harvik Desai 132, Jay Gohil 115, Arpit Vasavada 73 n.o.) drew with Maharashtra 55/1 in 10 overs. **Maharashtra 1(10), Saurashtra 1(5).**

New Chandigarh: Punjab 325 & 179/4 in 63 overs (Harnoor Singh 49, Nehal Wadhera 55 n.o.) drew with Goa 494/6 decl. in 117 overs (Suyash Prabhudessai 149, Manthan Khutkar 86, Abhinav Tejrana 131, Snehal Kauthankar 78). **Goa 3(11), Punjab 1(5).**

Indore: Madhya Pradesh 384/8 decl. & 73/3 in 27 overs drew with Chandigarh 310 in 95 overs (Shivam Bhambri 52, Manan Vohra 52, Ankit Kaushik 59, Raj Bawa 77, Kumar Kartikeya 4/110). **MP 3(9), Chandigarh 1(1).**

Thiruvananthapuram: Karnataka 586/5 decl. bt Kerala 238 & 184 in 79.3 overs (Mohsin Khan 6/29). **Karnataka 7(11), Kerala 0(2).**

Group C: Agartala: Bengal 336 & 90/3 in 25 overs (Shahbaz Ahmed 51 n.o.) drew with Tripura 385 in 103.2 overs (Hanuma Vihari 141, Manisankar Murasingh 102 n.o., Mohammed Kaif 4/79). **Tripura 3(3), Bengal 1(13).**

Guwahati: Railways 224 & 97/1 in 23 overs (Suraj Ahuja 57 n.o.) drew with Assam 209 in 64.4 overs (Swarupam Purkayastha 121, Adarsh Singh 6/48). **Railways 3(4), Assam 1(2).**

Ahmedabad: Gujarat 163 & 137 in 60.4 overs (Urvil Patel 44, Nikhil Kashyap 4/59) lost to Haryana 239 & 62/6 in 28 overs. **Haryana 6(18), Gujarat 0(3).**

Delhi: Uttarakhand 257 & 88 bt Services 223 & 105 in 48.4 overs (Mayank Mishra 5/45). **Uttarakhand 6(9), Services 0(13).**

Group D: Raipur: Jammu & Kashmir 394 drew with Chhattisgarh 505/9 decl. in 168.2 overs (Ashutosh Singh 90, Amandeep Khare 156, Aditya Sarwate 79, Arafat Khan 49). **Chhattisgarh 3(4), J&K 1(8).**

Delhi: Delhi 294 & 321/0 in 81 overs (Arpit Rana 170 n.o., Sanat Sangwan 122 n.o.) drew with Pondicherry 481. **Pondicherry 3(5), Delhi 1(7).**

Jaipur: Mumbai 254 & 269/3 in 82 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 156, Musheer Khan 63) drew with Rajasthan 617/6 decl. **Rajasthan 3(9), Mumbai 1(10).**

Nadaun: Himachal Pradesh 318 & 303 lost to Hyderabad 278 & 347/6 in 75.3 overs (Abhirath Reddy 175 n.o., Rahul Radesh 66). **Hyderabad 6(10), HP 0(4).**

Plate:

Patna: Meghalaya 408/7 decl. in 141 overs (Ajay Duhan 129, Swastic Chettri 94, Akash Choudhary 60 n.o.) drew with Bihar 156/4 in 25 overs (Vaibhav Suryavanshi 93). **Meghalaya 1(5), Bihar 1(9).**

Anand: Mizoram 424 drew with Sikkim 427/8 in 142.4 overs (Amit Rajera 49, Robin Limboo 60, Gurinder Singh 49, Ankur Malik 54, Kranthi Kumar 58 n.o.). **Sikkim 3(5), Mizoram 1(9).**

Anvay to play U-19 One-Day Challenger Trophy

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Anvay, the son of legendary India batter Rahul Dravid, was on Tuesday named in one of the four squads for the Men's U-19 One-Day Challenger Trophy commencing in Hyderabad on Wednesday.

A top-order batter-cum-wicketkeeper, the teenager has been named in Team C of the tournament which is held annually and provides a platform for young cricketers to showcase their skills.

Anvay, the younger brother of Samit who has played a few Maharaja T20 KSCA Trophy matches as a top-order batter, is a hard-hitting batter.

The squads: Team A: Vihaan Malhotra (Capt.), Abhigyan Kundu (vice-capt. & wk), Vansh Acharya, Balaji Rao (wk), Lakshya Raichandani, Vineeth V K, Markanday Panchal, Satvik Deswal, V .Yashveer, Hemchudeshan J. R.S. Ambrish, Honey Pratap Singh, Vasu Devani, Yudhajit Guha, Ishan Sood.

Team B: Vedant Trivedi (Capt.), Harvansh Singh (vice-capt. & wk), Wafi Kachchhi, Sagar Virk, Sayan Paul, Vedant Singh Chauhan, Pranav Pant, Ehit Salaria (wk), B K Kishore, Anmoljeet Singh, Naman Pushpak, D. Deepesh, Mohammed Malik, Mahamad Yaseen Saudagar, Vaibhav Sharma. **Team C:** Aaron George (Capt.), Aaryan Yadav (vice-capt.), Ankit Chatterjee, Manikanth Shivanand, Rahul Kumar, Yash Kasvankar, Anvay Dravid (wk), Yuvraj Gohil (wk), Khilan A. Patel, Kanishk Chouhan, Aayush Shukla, Henil Patel, Laxman Pruthi, Rohit Kumar Das, Mohit Ulva.

Team D: Chandrahas Dash (Capt.), Maulyarajsinh Chavda (vice-capt.), Shanthanu Singh, Arnav Bugga, Abhinav Kannan, Kushagra Ojha, Aryan Sakpal (wk), A Rapole (wk), Vikalp Tiwari, Mohamed Enaan, Aayan Akram, Udhav Mohan, Ashutosh Mahida, M .Toshith Yadav, Solib Tariq.

Jitesh Sharma to lead India-A in Rising Stars Asia Cup

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Vaibhav Suryavanshi and Priyansh Arya were on Tuesday named in the Jitesh Sharma-led India-A squad for the Rising Stars Asia Cup to be held in Doha later this month.

India-A is in Group-B alongside Oman, UAE and Pakistan-A in the tournament to be played from November 14-23. India-A will play Pakistan-A on November 16 after opening against UAE on Nov. 14.

The squad: Jitesh Sharma (Capt.), Priyansh Arya, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Nehal Wadhera, Naman Dhir (vice-capt.), Suryansh Shedge (wk), Ramandeep Singh, Harsh Dubey, Ashutosh Sharma, Yash Thakur, Gurjapneet Singh, Vijay Kumar Vyshak, Yudhvir Singh Charak, Abhishek Porel (wk), Suyash Sharma.

Standbyes: Gurnoor Singh Brar, Kumar Kushagra, Tanush Kotian, Sameer Rizvi, Shaik Rasheed.